MEMORIALS

AND

LETTERS

RELATING TO THE

HISTORY OF BRITAIN

IN THE

R E

JAMES THE FIRST.

PUBLISHED FROM THE ORIGINALS.

GLASGOW:

PRINTED BY ROBERT AND ANDREW FOULIS,
PRINTERS TO THE UNIVERSITY,
M.DCC.LXII.

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TO

PHILIP YORKE,

VISCOUNT ROYSTOUN,

LEARNED IN BRITISH HISTORY,

THE EDITOR

INSCRIBES THIS COLLECTION.

BRITAN
NICUS

PREFACE.

THE Public, already ſatiated with original papers, may require ſome apology for this collection.

In the Library of the Faculty of Advocates at Edinburgh, many volumes of letters and memorials, relating to the hiſtory of Britain during the ſeventeenth century, are preſerved: moſt of them appear to have been collected by one Balfour of Denmylne: his aſſiduity, in amaſſing materials for the hiſtory of that period, has been greater than his judgment in ſelecting and arranging them; for, with ſome papers intereſting and uſeful, many more equally tedious and uninſtructive, are blended.

A curſory peruſal of this bulky

collection induced me to believe, that from it ſome letters and memorials might be choſen, tending at once to diſplay the genius of that age, and to throw new lights upon many characters diſtinguiſhed in hiſtory.

With this view I prepared the following collection, and now ſubmit it to the Public; ſenſible, however, that works of this nature generally meet with few readers, and with little approbation, I have been cautious that mine neither offend by its bulk, nor by the largeneſs of the impreſſion.

They who happen to know my political notions, without knowing my diſpoſition, may ſuppoſe that this collection is intended as a ſa-

ture on King James and his miniſters: but it will be remembered that I only publiſh what others have written. Sure I am that I feel infinitely more pleaſure in recording the amiable ſenſibility and maternal affection of the Dutcheſs of Lenox, than in unveiling the little arts and ſervile adulation of courtiers, or the petulant familiarity of an overgrown favourite.

If this collection ſhould chance to meet with readers, ſome more volumes, formed upon the ſame plan, will probably be offered to the Public. The negotiations of King James, during the laſt three years of Queen Eliſabeth, will, of themſelves, afford materials for one volume; the letters of Archbiſhop

Sharp, collected with impartiality, may fill up another.

All that I can do, is to inform the Public of my plan; how far it may merit approbation, is not for me to determine.

Yet let me be permitted to add, that moſt of the conſiderable families in Scotland are poſſeſſed of original letters, which may tend to illuſtrate the hiſtory of Britain during the ſeventeenth century: if perſons of diſtinction, poſſeſſed of ſuch letters, approve of my plan, and are willing to contribute their aid for its accompliſhment, the favour will be gratefully acknowledged.

DAV. DALRYMPLE.

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SIR THOMAS HAMILTON,

KING's ADVOCATE,

TO

KING JAMES. †

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

My conceived fear, that my ſilence could not find out any lawful excuſe, if I ſhould not advertiſe your Majeſty of the progreſs and event of the criminal perſuit of Meſſ. John Forbes, Welch, and others, their complices, before your Majeſty's juſtice, for their treaſonable declining your Majeſty and your ſecret council's judgment, makes me bold to write in that matter; which, as well in reſpect of a moſt high point and large part of your Majeſty's authority royal brought in queſtion by the ignorant and inflexible obſtinacy of theſe defenders, as in regard of the moſt careful expectation of a great part of your Highneſs's ſubjects, in this your kingdom, over-doubtſomly diſtracted, during the uncertain event thereof, partly by ſuperſtitious, and partly by feigned zeal to their profeſſion, and affection to their perſons for their profeſſion's ſake; being of ſo high and dangerous conſequence, as the miſcarrying thereof might have exemed a great part of your Majeſty's ſubjects from your Majeſty's juriſdiction and obedience in matters of doctrine and diſcipline, and all things which

† The Scottiſh phraſes in this letter are retained; the moſt remarkable are, *langſum* for *tedious*, *but* for *without*, and *pannel* for *perſons arraigned*.

they ſhould have pleaſed to affirm to be of that nature, and therewith have given them occaſion, and as it were lawful liberty, or liberty by your Majeſty's own laws and ſentences, to have maintained that liberty once purchaſed, and daily to have encreaſed the ſame, to the manifeſt peril, not only of further impairing, but with time, of utter ſubverſion of your royal power within this kingdom. God having now brought it to that good end, that, after langſum, difficil, and moſt contentious travels, they are convicted by aſſize of that treaſonable declinator. I ſhould omit as neceſſary a point of my duty, as if I had not replied to their moſt probable alledgeances, if I ſhould conceal from your Majeſty, that the firſt and greateſt praiſe of this good ſucceſs ſhould be given to your Majeſty's ſelf, for foreſeeing this matter to be of ſuch difficulty and danger, as it required the particular direction of your Majeſty's own moſt excellent wiſdom, by the report and proſecution of my Lord of Dunbar, who, I am aſſured, in all his life was never ſo ſollicitous for the event of the trial of other men's lives; for, at his here-coming, finding that matter full, not only of foreſeen, but alſo of unexpected difficulties, his care and diligence therein has been ſo aſſiduous, wiſe, and provident, that having made ſecret choice of this time and place (which-by-effect has proved moſt proper) and ſo vively expreſſed to your Majeſty's Juſtice, Juſtice-Clerk, and other members of that court, your Majeſty's care of the maintenance of your royal power, brought in queſtion by that proceſs, with the undoubted favours which

they might expect by doing their duty, and most certain disgrace and punishment, if, in their default, any thing should miscarry. He proceeded thereafter to the preparation of sufficient forces able to execute all the lawful commandments of your Majesty's council, in your service; and, for that purpose, having brought with him to this town a very great number of honourable barons and gentlemen, of good rank and worth, of his kindred and friendship; finding, beside other great impediments, the chief peril to consist in the want of an honest assize, who, without respect of popular favours, report, threatnings, or imprecations, would serve God and your Majesty in a good conscience; for known default of constancy and good affection in others, he was compelled to cause his own particular and private kinsmen and friends to make the most part of the assize, who being admitted upon the same, if he had not dealt in that point but scrupulosity or ceremonies to resolve them of the wonderful doubt, wherein, by many means, chiefly by the thundering imprecations of the pannel, and contentious resistance of their own associate assizers, they were casten, that whole purpose had failed, to our infinite grief, and your Majesty's over-great prejudice. For the good success whereof I shall ever thank God, and ever pray him and your Majesty, to put us to as few essays in the like causes as may possibly stand with the weal of your Majesty's service, in respect of the scarcity of skilled and well-affected assizers in these causes; for if my Lord of Dunbar had wanted your Majesty's most provident direc-

ons, or if we had been deſtitute of his wiſe and infinitely ſollicitous diligence and action in this purpoſe, in all men's judgments it had loſed, wherein our miſluck could never have found any excuſe, which might either have given ſatisfaction to your Majeſty, or contentment to our own minds, albeit our conſciences and actions did bear us record, that we ſerved with moſt faithful affections, and careful diligence. But now we have to thank God that it is well ended. And I muſt humbly crave your Majeſty's pardon for my boldneſs and overlong letter, which ſhall be always ſhort in compariſon of my long and endleſs prayers to God for your Majeſty's health, content, and long happy life. At Lithgow, the 11th January, 1606.

Your Sacred Majeſty's
moſt humble and faithful ſervitor,
TH. HAMILTON. †

† This letter gives a more lively idea of thoſe times, than an hundred Chronicles can do. We ſee here the prime miniſter, in order to obtain a ſentence agreeable to the king, addreſs the judges with promiſes and threats, pack the jury, and then deal with them *without ſcruple or ceremony*. It is alſo evident that the king's advocate diſliked the proceedings as inpolitic and odious, but that he had not reſolution to oppoſe them. The detail of this trial, and of its conſequences, may be found in Spotiſwood and Calderwood.

THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND TO KING JAMES.*

PLEASE YOUR MOST SACRED MAJESTY,

We your moſt humble and loyally affected ſervants, having heard ſome reproachful ſpeeches, uttered in the lower houſe, by ſome evil-diſpoſed ſpirits, to the diſhonour of this your Majeſty's antient kingdom, and that only your Majeſty had ſtand to our defence; we have, in all humility, by theſe preſents, preſumed to take notice of the ſame, and to yield your Majeſty moſt humble and hearty thanks, not having committed any thing againſt that ſtate deſerving ſuch injuries, and far leſs worthy of ſo great favour, as it has pleaſed your gracious Majeſty to vouchſafe, by vindicating us from their opprobrious calumnies. It is no little grief to us till hear, what juſt cauſes of diſcontentment are miniſtred to your Majeſty at all theſe meetings for enforcing that union ſo greatly hated by them, and ſo little affected by us, except in that religious obedience we ought to your Majeſty, not to diſlike any thing that likes your Highneſs. And if it may pleaſe your ſacred Majeſty, without offence, to hear our apology, in defence of the honour of our country, we doubt not to make it known, by the true records of bygone times, ſince this iſland has been firſt inhabited, that in no point of ſincere

* The Scottiſh phraſes in this letter are retained. The moſt remarkable are, *ſtand* for *ſtood*, *till* for *to*, and *nor* for *than*.

Chriſtianity to God, loyal obedience till our princes, inviolate friendſhip with our confederates, and unconquered liberty of our eſtate, we have never been inferior to them; and, in the very ſubject of the union, whereat they pretend ſo many frivolous exceptions, that their advantage ſhall be every way greater nor ours. We would be ſorry to be authors of diſtracting that, which your princely wiſdom, and fatherly care, has happily contracted, having ſo deeply taken in heart, ſo to unite theſe two kingdoms, joined by nature, but by affection altogether diſtant*, as no marks of diverſity betwixt them till the after coming ages ſhould appear. Yet we are perſuaded, that our juſt defence againſt theſe falſe imputations laid upon all the nation, not ſparing your ſacred Majeſty, nor your moſt royal progeny, nor your moſt worthy anceſtors of a hundred and ſix kings†, lineally deſcending of one ſtock, cannot but, in your Majeſty's accuſtomed juſtice, receive at your hands a favourable cenſure; and if, in any meeting, either private or public, whereof we had many about that ſubject, ſuch audience was ever given till any ſpeech, either derogating to the honour of that ſtate, or diſſuading the union, however there be among us, not a few of the beſt ſort, who are as alien from

* May we not hope that this iſland is now joined in affection, as well as by nature, under the government of GEORGE THE BRITON?

† Some critics have attempted to ſtrike forty off the liſt; however, even without them, there are ſtill enough remaining for the honour and felicity of Scotland.

it as any of the lower houſe, and has more juſt cauſe to be diſcontented with ſo eaſy obliterating of bygone wrongs, let it be till us a diſloyal part againſt your Majeſty, and unworthy of true friendſhip againſt our neighbours; but, contrarywiſe, ſuch has been the diligent care of your miniſtry here, upon whom your Majeſty is pleaſed to repoſe the weight of your affairs, that knowing your Majeſty's earneſt diſpoſition to perfect their union, in all the conferences, they have laboured to extol all the apparent benefits we might receive thereby, and to conceal and ſuppreſs the true ills: in doing whereof, although we have reported ſmall thanks of theſe, who ſo liberally have talked of us, or thoſe who in ſo patient hearing did clearly manifeſt their allowance of all was ſpoken; yet your Majeſty's princely reſenting our wrong, and urging the trial and puniſhing thereof, is more nor ſufficient recompence, if our lives and all our fortunes ſhould be endangered in any thing might yield your Majeſty ſatisfaction; and if, under your Majeſty's correction, to the which we always ſubmit ourſelves, your Majeſty would be pleaſed to deſiſt from any further moving of this union, and make known to the eſtate, that the whole inhabitants of the iſle are your Majeſty's ſubjects, and that in all your ſervices and employments, you will indifferently preſer thoſe, whom your Majeſty, in your wiſdom, ſhall find moſt capable: that your Majeſty will vouchſafe to grace us with your reſidence among us ſometimes, and ſeclude us from no favour your Majeſty, in your royal prerogative, may give us, and whereof we ſhall render our-

ſelves, by our careful and loyal deſerving, to prove worthy, we doubt not but they ſhall require at your Majeſty's hands, that which, by this enforced dealing, they would appear to refuſe. But this, and all other things tending to the liberty and honour of this your Majeſty's antient kingdom, we remit to your Majeſty's moſt rare and princely wiſdom, humbly requeſting your Majeſty to take in good part this our moſt humble thanks, having nothing elſe to offer your Majeſty for all your undeſerved favours, but our moſt loyal hearts, which ſhall never debord from the ſmalleſt of your Majeſty's thoughts. Thus, humbly craving pardon of our preſumption, we pray God to grant your Majeſty, after a long and happy reign, eternal felicity. From your Majeſty's burgh of Edinburgh, the 3d of March, 1607.

Your Majeſty's moſt humble
and obedient ſubjects,

MONTROSE.	BLANTYRE.
LOTHIAN.	ROXBURGH.
DUMFERMLINE Cancell.	ELPHINSTON.
J. BALMERINO.	R. COCKBURN.
AL. OCHILTRIE.	

SIR THOMAS HAMILTON,
KING'S ADVOCATE,
TO
KING JAMES.

PLEASE YOUR SACRED MAJESTY,

ACKNOWLEDGING myſelf bound, in duty, to render account to your Majeſty of the ſervices properly belonging and committed to my charge, I have taken the boldneſs to write of our progreſs in the forfeitures intented againſt the Lord Maxwell*, and the memory of Reſtalrig, before the Lords of Articles: our firſt proceeding was againſt the Lord Maxwell, wherein, albeit there were no compearance for the defender, yet ſome of the Lords of Articles kything [appearing] more ſcrupulous and preciſe in ſundry points of that proceſs nor we did foreſee or ſuſpect, and hearing thereafter, that ſundry of that number had preconceived hard opinions of Reſtalrig's proceſs, the knowledge thereof, which wrought fear and miſtruſt in the minds of divers your Majeſty's well affected ſervants, did breed in the Earl of Dunbar ſuch care and fervency to remove theſe impediments, that bending his wits in more paſſionate manner nor he uſed to expreſs in common and indif-

* For the ſlaughter of the laird of Johnſton, R. *Johnſton Rer. Brit. Hiſtor.* lib. 14. p. 449.

ferent matters*, he did travel ſo earneſtly with the noblemen and whole remanent Lords of Articles, and ſolicited ſome of the moſt learned and beſt experimented of your Majeſty's council to furniſh reaſons and light to the clearing of the probation of that moſt heinous treaſon, and gave to myſelf ſo earneſt charge, and furniſhed ſo pregnant, judicious, and clear grounds to confirm the ſummons, and manifeſt the vive [lively] circumſtances thereof to the world, that he left no travel to me but the repetition of the ſubſtance of his information, to the which having ſo nearly conformed my diſcourſe as poſſibly I could, it pleaſed God, that the Lords of the Articles being happily prepared by the depoſitions of divers honeſt men of the miniſtry, and other famous witneſſes, who recognoſcing unquhill [the deceaſed] Reſtalrig's hand-writ in his treaſonable miſſives, produced by me, with very ſenſible and forcible reaſons and cauſes of their conſtant and confident affirmation, that theſe miſſives were written by him. When the probation of the ſummons was referred to the Lords votes, they found, uniformly, all in one voice, the ſaid ſummons to be ſo clearly proven, that they ſeemed to contend who ſhould be able, moſt zea-

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louſly, to expreſs the ſatisfaction of his heart, not only by moſt pithy words, but by tears of joy; divers of the beſt rank, confeſſing, that that whereof they doubted, at their entry in the houſe, was now ſo manifeſt, that they behoved to eſteem them traitors who ſhould any longer refuſe to declare their aſſured reſolution of the truth of that treaſon. So hoping your Majeſty will graciouſly pardon my boldneſs, in offering to your Majeſty this rude relation of theſe purpoſes concerning my charge in your Majeſty's ſervice. I beſeech God, who has ſo mercifully preſerved your Majeſty from the horrible devices of your deviliſh enemies, and ſo miraculouſly detected their helliſh practices, long to protect and preſerve your Majeſty from all harms and dangers, and to grant your Majeſty all happineſs and contentment. Edinr. this 21 Junii, 1609.

Your moſt Sacred Majeſty's

moſt bounden and faithful ſervant,

TH. HAMILTON.

RICHARD BANCROFT, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, TO KING JAMES.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MOST EXCELL. MAJESTY.

I WAS very much grieved upon Friday, conſidering how it ſhould come to paſs, that your Majeſty was pleaſed to let fall ſome words, as if you ſuppoſed that your clergy were idle, eſpecially ſuch as have two benefices, becauſe I am perſuaded that there was never in this kingdom leſs cauſe to complain thereof; I would they had no juſter occaſion of complaint, that where is moſt preaching, there they find the leaſt fruit of their travels.

For the bill that is in hand againſt pluralities, it is the ſame, that, for above forty years, from parliament to parliament, hath been rejected; and that very worthily.

If, before it had been ſought to have tied every preacher to one benefice, it had been provided, that every benefice ſhould have been made a ſufficient living for a worthy preacher, the attempt had been allow-

* In this year 1610, "Bancroft offered to the parliament a project for the better providing of a maintenance to the clergy." *Biogr. Britan.* P. 468. [F] where the plan at large is inſerted from the *paper-office*.

able; ſo as the dignity of the miniſtry conſidered, (which Satan dare not impugn,) the ſufficiency of ſuch benefices might have been rated accordingly. But thereof I have ſome doubt, eſpecially ſith your poor miniſters are now in their hands, to have their portions limited, who, for the moſt part, will never think (we fear) themſelves to have enough, nor ceaſe to eſteem the little (God knows) that the clergy hath to be too much. It is true, that now there is a fair overture, of an earneſt deſire, to make every parſonage and vicarage in England a competent living for a learned preacher; but the iſſue thereof I do greatly ſuſpect, that it will only tend (through the undervaluing of learned mens deſerts) to the tying of particular preachers to one parſonage or vicarage of the better ſort, and ſo rather to deprive them all indeed of ſufficient living, than to make the leſſer benefices able to maintain men ſo qualified, as now it is with ſuch earneſtneſs deſired.

But God's will be done; we that are biſhops will do our beſt (as heretofore we have to our powers endeavoured) for the increaſing of a learned miniſtry; but we may never yield to any courſe that ſhall procure apparently their utter overthrow, as to expect that they ſhould ſtill make brick without diminiſhing their taſk, when their ſtraw is with-held from them, and they ſhall be driven to gather ſtubble in the fields.

Beſides, we of the clergy do greatly wonder at the pretended zeal which firſt begat, and ſtill doth ſupport the ſaid bill; in that the ſtatute, which alloweth certain miniſters, (thereby qualified) to recover the tithes

the Lords of the Articles being happily prepared by the depoſitions of divers honeſt men of the miniſtry, and other famous witneſſes, who recognoſcing unquhill [the deceaſed] Reſtalrig's hand-writ in his treaſonable miſſives, produced by me, with very ſenſible and forcible reaſons and cauſes of their conſtant and confident affirmation, that theſe miſſives were written by him. When the probation of the ſummons was referred to the Lords votes, they found, uniformly, all in one voice, the ſaid ſummons to be ſo clearly proven, that they ſeemed to contend who ſhould be able, moſt zea-

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Your most Sacred Majesty's

most bounden and faithful servant,

TH. HAMILTON.

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of two parishes, is held to be unlawful, and so consequently necessary to be abrogated; whilst another statute (by force whereof many laymen do reap the tithes of two benefices) is past over with silence, as if there were no fault at all in it, but lawfully ought to be continued. If it be said, that the law hath laid the care of souls in such benefices (termed impropriation) upon Vicars and Curates, it may as truly be answered, that in like sort the law tieth every minister that hath two benefices, to supply his absence from that where he is not resident, with a sufficient minister his substitute: whereas two thousand impropriations at the least in England, I am well assured, are most miserably served by poor souls, that live in pitiful beggary, not having the hire of ordinary coachmen, or meaner servants in gentlemens houses, to live upon. So as, for mine own part, I hold it a very unequal and scandalous project, to allow that laymen may still receive the tithes of two benefices, and to provide, that hereafter it shall be unlawful for a godly minister so to do, considering, to whom, by God's ordinance, tithes ought to be paid. It seemeth therefore unto me, that, in the current of this great zeal, your Majesty shall do a work worthy of your most religious wisdom and circumspection, if you would be pleased, of your goodness, for the trial of the said pretended zeal, (which is often a mask for many bad pretences,) to insist upon the abrogating of the said statute for impropriations, whereby tithes are paid to laymen, (for whom they were never appointed,) before you permit the course now held against the poor ministers, to

be too far proceeded in, except you do find any likelyhood, that every benefice in England, with cure, will be made a ſufficient living for a preacher; which I never expect, nor (I fear) will be yielded unto, without ſome attempt, either againſt cathedral churches, or for the diminiſhing your biſhops livings.

Moreover, upon the advantage of your Majeſty's great neceſſities at this time, I do foreſee, and partly already perceive, that many things will be preſſed upon your Majeſty, againſt the clergy, by the lower houſe of parliament, as hoping, now or never, to obtain that which divers of them, for many years, have aimed at. And that your Majeſty, for the gaining of your own ends towards your ſupply and ſupport, may be inclined to give more way unto them therein, than, I judge, may ſtand with the good continuance of that ſtate of this church, wherein you found it to be moſt royally upheld by the late Queen, (of moſt worthy memory,) and hath ſince been likewiſe maintained by your moſt excellent Majeſty accordingly, with a very great increaſe of many ſingular benefits, and moſt princely favours towards it. But myſelf, with the reſt of your Majeſty's biſhops, and the whole clergy, do ſo fully repoſe our truſt and aſſurance in your Majeſty's moſt royal and Chriſtian affection towards us, as we know that all the cunning and ſleight in the world, ſhall never be able to work your Highneſs, to the approbation and allowance of any thing, that may either tend to our unjuſt reproach, or to the prejudice of religion, which hitherto hath more flouriſhed in England than in all the churches beſides of

of Chriſtendom; conſidering that all the plots and practices, at this time deſigned againſt us, may eaſily be met with by the obſervation of your own rules and directions, delivered ſo oft, this ſeſſion, to the lower houſe by the Lord Treaſurer. If we of the clergy have, in our proceedings, tranſgreſſed your Majeſty's laws, they may thereupon juſtly frame their grievances, and we are well content to anſwer unto them: but where your Majeſty's laws do ſupport us, and our doings, we can never doubt of your Majeſty's moſt royal and gracious aſſiſtance.

A bill rejected the two laſt ſeſſions of this parliament, having again paſſed the lower houſe, was, upon Saturday laſt, read, by the Lord Chancellor's appointment, to the upper houſe: the copy whereof I have preſumed here to incloſe. Your Majeſty, in peruſing of it, ſhall find it to ſtretch very far, neither regarding ſome ſtatutes yet in force, nor the authority either of your Majeſty's convocations, (repreſenting in former times the church of England,) or of your Highneſs, the chief and ſupreme governor of it. The laſt ſeſſion but one, ſundry of your biſhops, in a great committee, anſwered all thoſe reaſons that were then thought fit to be alledged for the paſſage of this bill. But all is one; reaſon or no reaſon, it forceth not; it is importunity, and opportunity, that is relied upon; and we muſt again endure a new brunt to no purpoſe, except your Majeſty ſhall be pleaſed to prevent it; and I think it very neceſſary you ſhould ſo do, for the avoiding of public ſcandal, if your Majeſty's ſupremacy ſhould now again

be called in queſtion, as of neceſſity it muſt be, if the authors of this bill do ſtand to the juſtification of it againſt us. I moſt humbly beſeech your moſt excellent Majeſty to pardon this my boldneſs: *ſacerdotis vox debet eſſe libera*: and I could not but condemn myſelf, being Archbiſhop of Canterbury, if I ſhould not, with all my ſtrength, and for the preventing of future miſchiefs, ſtand up in the gap, which is ſought to be made in the very form and frame of the church, and likewiſe plead in the beſt ſort I am able, before ſo mighty, ſo learned, ſo provident, ſo religious, and ſo wiſe a king, for ſo well a ſettled and worthy form of religion, and for ſo godly, ſo learned, and ſo painful a clergy, whom your Majeſty ſhall ever have at your commandment, moſt loyal, moſt faithful ſubjects, and always, in their divine meditations and prayers, your daily orators. Almighty God long bleſs and protect your Majeſty from the malice and wicked attempts of all your enemies, granting you long life, a comfortable reign, and all other his heavenly bleſſings, both here upon earth, and hereafter in his glorious kingdom for ever. At Lambeth, this 14th of May, 1610.

Your Majeſty's moſt bounden,

and dutiful Chaplain,

R. CANT.

FOLLOWS A COPY OF THE BILL MENTIONED IN THE PRECEDING LETTER.

† AN ACT RESTRAINING THE EXECUTION OF CANONS ECCLESIASTICAL, NOT CONFIRMED BY PARLIAMENT, READ IN THE UPPER HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT, MAY 12. 1610.

FORASMUCH as divers inconveniencies have grown and happened to your Majeſty's ſubjects of this realm of England, by the multiplicity of canons, conſtitutions, and ordinances eccleſiaſtical, heretofore made; whereof ſundry, varying from the common laws and ſtatutes of this your Highneſs's realm, have already grown, and are likely daily to grow more grievous and burdenſome to your Majeſty's ſubjects, unleſs ſome reſtraint and proviſion be made to the contrary; may it therefore pleaſe your moſt excellent Majeſty, that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by your moſt excellent Majeſty, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons in this preſent parliament aſſembled, and by the authority of the ſame: That no canon, conſtitution, or ordinance eccleſiaſtical, heretofore made, conſtituted, or ordained, within the ſpace of ten years laſt paſt, or hereafter to

† This may ſerve to ſupply a ſmall omiſſion of Mr. HUME's, in his hiſtory of Great Britain, Vol. I. p. 37. where he ſays, "in this ſeſſion, 1610, the Commons *contented* themſelves with "remonſtrating againſt the proceedings of the *High Commiſſion* "*Court.*"

be made, conſtituted, or ordained, ſhall be of any force or effect, by any means whatſoever, to impeach or hurt any perſon or perſons in his or their life, liberty, lands, or goods, until the ſame be firſt confirmed by act of parliament, an law, cuſtom, ordinance, or thing to the contrary, in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

Ext. p. Ro. Bowyer, *Cler. Parl.*

RICHARD BANCROFT, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, TO KING JAMES.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MOST EXCELL. MAJESTY.

We the biſhops and clergy of the province of Canterbury, being aſſembled, by your Majeſty's authority, in convocation, conſidering your Majeſty's moſt princely favour towards us, and your preſent wants, notwithſtanding there is one old ſubſidy of four ſhillings in the pound behind unpaid, have very willingly, readily, and with one conſent, granted to your Majeſty a new ſubſidy of ſix ſhillings in the pound, and ſo have ordered the payment of it with the former, as they may be both in your exchequer within one year and an half. By antient cuſtom, we your ſaid biſhops, with a ſelected number of the lower houſe of convocation, were to have preſented this our grant unto your moſt excellent Majeſty, and to have beſeeched you to accept the ſame in good part, as a ſmaller teſtimony of our duty and affection towards you, than your Majeſty's goodneſs towards us hath many ways deſerved. But now, by reaſon of your Majeſty's abſence, and through the indiſpoſition of my own body, not daring as yet to undertake ſo long a journey, I have preſumed, with the advice of my Lord Treaſurer, to ſend our ſaid grant to

your Majeſty by Sir Thomas Lake, not doubting, but that, of your princely clemency, you will take this diſorderly offering of it in good part; and, by a word or two, either from yourſelf, or in your name, by Sir Thomas Lake, ſignify unto me, to be delivered to our convocation, your Majeſty's good acceptance of it; ſo as the ſame, together with the grant itſelf, may be ſent back again to-morrow in the morning betimes, that it may be exhibited to the lower houſe, and perhaps read beforenoon. Almighty God preſerve your moſt excellent Majeſty from the malice of all your enemies, and bleſs you with a long life, granting you many more quiet parliaments, and all other comforts in this world, and for ever hereafter, through our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. At Lambeth, this 16th of July, 1610.

Your Majeſty's moſt bounden,

and loyal Chaplain,

R. CANT.†

† This offer of a ſubſidy was no injudicious method of enforcing the arguments uſed by the Archbiſhop in his letter of the 14th of May 1610.

EARL OF NORTHAMPTON*

TO

MR. JOHN MURRAY OF THE BED-CHAMBER.

THE laſt act before my departure, worthy Mr. Murray, is my requeſt to yourſelf, to kiſs the ſacred hands of my royal Maſter, and only let him know, that I have performed all my walks, with prayers for the long and happy preſervation of his Majeſty, not doubting, whatſoever become of me, thoſe proſperous events will ſpring up in all quick-ſets, that are fenced with love and loyalty.

For my own part, as I never altered my compaſs; ſo, beginning his loyal ſervant, I die his faithful beadſman, adding this only petition to the reſt to God, that, as among Kings he hath created him the beſt, ſo in the ſame rank he will crown him the happieſt.

I am extremely full of pain, and holding the time

* Lord HENRY HOWARD, of the houſe of NORFOLK, created Earl of NORTHAMPTON by King JAMES. He died in the year 1614. There is a lively and juſt character of this remarkable perſonage in Mr. WALPOLE's Catalogue of royal and noble authors. Article, NORTHAMPTON. This letter, written with a trembling hand, is, probably, the laſt of his compoſition, and may ſerve to ſhew, that he died, as he had lived, a pedant and a flatterer.

long till I be at my journey's end, I leave myſelf to the demonſtrations of your true love, and will be ever found,

Your affectionate,

and conſtant friend,

H. NORTHAMPTON.

Wedneſday at Ten.

THE SECOND EXAMINATION OF EDMOND PEACHAM CLERK, TAKEN BEFORE THE LORDS AT THE TOWER, JANUARY 14TH, 1614.†

THE examinate being demanded, how he came to the knowledge of these particularities, which he hath set down, touching the king and the state; as the king's gifts for dances, banquets, dogs, &c.? he answereth, that he knoweth them no otherwise, but by his own observation and imagination; and the application of it was made out of the example of Herod.

Being asked with whom he hath conferred, or what information he hath from others, by word, message, or writing, of those slanderous things set down in his papers, or any of them? he answereth, that no person whatsoever, did either, by word, message, or writing, inform him of any of those things; and that he never had any conference with any man touching any of them, neither did ever make any of these known to any person.

EDMUND PEACHAM.

G. CANT.	RAPHE WINWOOD.
T. ELLESMORE Canc.	FULKE GREVILLE.
T. SUFFOLKE.	E. COKE.
E. WORCESTER.	JUL. CAESAR.
FENTON.	

† This is transcribed from a copy in the Advocates Library, and is inserted on account of its connection with what follows.

PART OF A LETTER FROM SIR RALPH WINWOOD TO A LORD, ABOUT K. JAMES'S PERSON.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

On Saturday laſt, in the afternoon, the lords, appointed by his Majeſty to examine Peacham in the Tower, aſſembled there about two of the clock. A copy of the examinations I ſend herewith, which your lordſhip may be pleaſed to impart to his Majeſty. I find not the man to be, as was related, ſtupid or dull, but to be full of malice and craft. On Sunday, I preſſed the Lords, being in council, to adviſe and reſolve for the further proceeding againſt this delinquent. The Lord Chancellor, by reaſon of his indiſpoſition, was abſent from the council. The term now approaching, which on Monday next doth begin, the lords do hold it moſt convenient for his Majeſty's ſervice, that the judges, upon their arrival to this town, ſhould aſſemble together to every bench. A copy of Peacham's book, authentically collationed, is to be delivered; upon their reſolution, which they will not deliver without adviſed deliberation, the lords will, with reſpectful care, proceed, as in duty ſhall become them, for the honour of his Majeſty.

This I find, that the judges declaring this impious fact to be treaſon, the cauſe cannot be tried before the end of Eaſter term, &c.

INTERROGATORIES WHEREUPON PEACHAM IS TO BE EXAMINED.

QUESTIONS IN GENERAL.

1. Who procured you, moved you, or adviſed you, to put in writing theſe traiterous ſlanders which you have ſet down againſt his Majeſty's perſon and government, or any of them?

2. Who gave you any advertiſement or intelligence touching thoſe particulars which are contained in your writings; as touching the ſale of the crown-lands, the deceit of the king's officers, the greatneſs of the king's gifts, his keeping divided courts, and the reſt? and who hath conferred with you, or diſcourſed with you, concerning thoſe points?

3. Whom have you made privy and acquainted with the ſaid writings, or any part of them? and who hath been your helpers or confederates therein?

4. What uſe mean you to make of the ſaid writings? was it by preaching them in ſermon, or by publiſhing them in treatiſe? if, in ſermon, at what time, and in what place, meant you to have preached them? if, by treatiſe, to whom did you intend to dedicate, or exhibite, or deliver ſuch treatiſe?

5. What was the reaſon, and to what end did you firſt ſet down in ſcattered papers, and after knit up, in form of a treatiſe or ſermon, ſuch a maſs of treaſonable ſlanders againſt the king, his poſterity, and the whole ſtate?

QUESTIONS IN PARTICULAR.

6. What moved you to write, that the king might be ſtricken with death on the ſudden, or within eight days, as Ananias or Nabal? do you know of any conſpiracy or danger to his perſon, or have you heard of any ſuch attempt?

7. You have confeſſed that theſe things were applied to the king; and that, after the example of preachers and chronicles, kings infirmities are to be laid open. This ſheweth plainly your uſe muſt be to publiſh them. Shew to whom, and in what manner?

8. What was the true time when you wrote the ſaid writings, or any part of them? and what was the laſt time you looked upon them, or peruſed them before they were found or taken?

9. What moved you to make doubt whether the people will riſe againſt the king for taxes and oppreſſions? do you know, or have you heard, of any likelihood or purpoſe of any tumults or commotion?

10. What moved you to write, that the getting of the crown-land again would coſt blood, and bring men to ſay, *this is the heir, let us kill him?* do you know or have you heard of any conſpiracy or danger to the prince, for doubt of calling back the crown-land?

11. What moved you to prove, that all the king's officers mought be put to the ſword? do you know, or have you heard, of any petition is intended to be made againſt the king's council and officers, or any riſing of people againſt them?

12. What moved you to ſay, in your writing, that our king, before his coming to the kingdom, promiſed mercy and judgment, but we find neither? what promiſe do mean of? and wherein hath the king broke the ſame promiſe?

There follows in the hand-writing of Secretary WINWOOD.

Upon theſe interrogatories, Peacham, this day, was examined before torture, in torture, between torture, and after torture. Notwithſtanding, nothing could be drawn from him, he ſtill perſiſting in his obſtinate and inſenſible denials, and former anſwer.

January 19th, 1614.

RAPHE WINWOOD. GERVASE HELWYSSE.
JUL. CAESAR. RAN. CREWE.
FR. BACON. HENRY YELVERTON.
H. MONTAGUE. FR. COTTINGTON.

SIR FRANCIS BACON TO KING JAMES.*

IT MAY PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENT MAJESTY,

I PERCEIVE by the biſhop of Bath and Wells, that although it ſeemeth he hath dealt in an effectual manner with Peacham, yet he prevaileth little hitherto; for he hath gotten of him no new names, neither doth Peacham alter his tale touching Sir John Sydenham.

Peacham ſtandeth off in two material points *de novo*.

The one, he will not yet diſcover into whoſe hands he did put his papers touching the conſiſtory villanies. They were not found with the other bundles upon the ſearch; neither did he ever ſay that he had burned or defaced them. Therefore it is like they are in ſome perſon's hands; and it is like again, that that perſon that he truſted with thoſe papers, he likewiſe truſted with theſe others of the treaſons, I mean with the ſight of them.

The other, that he taketh time to anſwer, when he is aſked, whether he heard not from Mr. Paulet ſome ſuch words, as he ſaith he heard from Sir John Sydenham, or in ſome lighter manner.

I hold it fit, that myſelf, and my fellows, go to the Tower, and ſo I purpoſe to examine him upon theſe

* This letter is not in Mr. MALLOCH's edition.

points, and ſome others; at the leaſt, that the world may take notice that the buſineſs is followed as heretofore, and that the ſtay of the trial is upon farder diſcovery, according to that we give out.

I think alſo it were not amiſs to make a falſe fire, as if all things were ready for his going down to his trial, and that he were upon the very point of being carried down, to ſee what that will work with him.

Laſtly, I do think it moſt neceſſary, and a point principally to be regarded, that becauſe we live in an age wherein no counſel is kept, and that it is true there is ſome bruit abroad, that the judges of the King's Bench do doubt of the caſe, that it ſhould not be treaſon; that it be given out conſtantly, and yet as it were in ſecret, and ſo a fame to ſlide, that the doubt was only upon the publication, in that it was never publiſhed; for that (if your Majeſty marketh it) taketh away, or leaſt qualifies the danger of the example; for that will be no man's caſe.

This is all I can do to thridd your Majeſty's buſineſs with a continual and ſettled care, turning and returning, not with any thing in the world, ſave only the occaſions themſelves, and your Majeſty's good pleaſure.

I had no time to report to your Majeſty, at your being here, the buſineſs referred, touching Mr. John Murray. I find a ſhrewd ground of a title againſt your Majeſty, and the patentees to theſe lands, by the co-heir of Thomas Earl of Northumberland; for I ſee a fair deed; I find a reaſonable conſideration for the making the ſaid deed, being for the advancement of

his daughters; for that all the poſſeſſions of the earldom were entailed upon his brother; I find it was made four years before his rebellion; and I ſee ſome probable cauſe why it has ſlept ſo long. But Mr. Murray's petition ſpeaketh only of the moiety of one of the co-heirs, whereunto if your Majeſty ſhould give way, you mought be prejudiced in the other moiety. Therefore, if Mr. Murray can get power of the whole, then it may be ſafe for your Majeſty to give way to the trial of the right, when the whole ſhall be ſubmitted to you. Mr. Murray is my dear friend; but I muſt cut even in theſe things, and ſo I know he would himſelf wiſh no other. God preſerve your Majeſty. February 28th, 1614.

Your Majeſty's moſt humble,

and devoted ſubject and ſervant,

FR. BACON.

SIR FRANCIS BACON TO KING JAMES.†

IT MAY PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

I SEND your Majeſty incloſed a copy of our laſt examination of Peacham, taken the 10th of this preſent, whereby your Majeſty may perceive, that this miſcreant wretch goeth back from all, and denieth his hand and all. No doubt, being fully of belief, that he ſhould go preſently down to his trial, he meant now to repeat his part which he purpoſed to play in the country, which was to deny all. But your Majeſty, in your wiſdom, perceiveth, that this denial of his hand, being not poſſible to be counterfeited, and ſworn to by Adams, and ſo oft by himſelf, formerly confeſſed and admitted, could not mend his caſe before any jury in the world, but rather aggravateth it by his notorious impudence and falſhood, and will make him more odious. He never deceived me; for, when others had hopes of diſcovery, and thought time well ſpent that way, I told your Majeſty, *pereuntibus mille figurae*, and that he now did but turn himſelf into divers ſhapes, to ſave or delay his puniſhment. And therefore, ſubmitting myſelf to your Majeſty's high wiſdom, I think myſelf bound, in conſcience, to put your Majeſty in remembrance, whether Sir John Sydenham ſhall be detained upon this

† This letter is not in Mr. MALLOCH's edition.

man's impeaching, in whom there is no truth. Notwithſtanding, that further inquiry be made of this other perſon, and that information and light be taken from Mr. Paulet and his ſervants, I hold it, as things are, neceſſary. God preſerve your Majeſty. March 12th, 1614.

Your Majeſty's moſt humble,

and devoted ſubject and ſervant,

FR. BACON.†

† The reader, if skilled in the law of England, will determine, whether, in his letters, Bacon writes moſt like a lawyer, or a courtier.

THE EXAMINATION OF EDMOND PEACHAM, AT THE TOWER, MARCH 10TH, 1614.

BEING asked, when he was laſt at London, and where he lodged when he was there? he ſaith he was laſt at London after the end of the laſt parliament; but where he lodged, he knoweth not.

Being asked, with what gentlemen, or others in London, when he was here laſt, he had conference and ſpeech withal? he ſaith he had ſpeech only with Sir Maurice Berkeley, and that about the petitions only, which had been before ſent up to him by the people of the country, touching the apparitors and the grievances offered the people by the court of the officials.

Being asked, touching one Peacham, of his name, what knowledge he had of him, and whether he was not the perſon that did put into his mind divers of thoſe traiterous paſſages which are both in his looſe and contexted papers? he ſaith this Peacham, of his name, was a divine, a ſcholar, and a traveller; and that he came to him ſome years paſt, the certainty of the time he cannot remember, and lay at this examinate's houſe a quarter of a year, and took ſo much upon him, as he had ſcarce the command of his own houſe or ſtudy; but that he would be writing, ſometimes in the church, ſometimes in the ſteeple, ſometimes in this examinate's ſtudy; and now ſaith farther, that thoſe papers, as well looſe as contexted, which he had formerly confeſſed to be of his own hand, might be of the writing of the ſaid

Peacham; and ſaith confidently, that none of them are his own hand-writing or inditing; but whatſoever is in his former examinations, as well before his Majeſty's learned council, as before my Lord of Canterbury, and other the Lords, and others of his Majeſty's Privy Council, was wholly out of fear, and to avoid torture, and not otherwiſe.

Being required to deſcribe what manner of man the ſaid Peacham that lay at his houſe was; he ſaith that he was tall of ſtature, and can make no other deſcription of him, but ſaith, as he taketh it, he dwelleth ſometimes at Honſlow as a miniſter; for he hath ſeen his letters of orders and licence under the hand of Mr. D. Chatterton, ſometime biſhop of Lincoln. He denieth to ſet his hand to this examination.

Examinat. per FR. BACON. RANDULPH CREWE. GER. HELWYSS. H. YELVERTON.

THE TRUE STATE OF THE QUESTION, WHETHER PEACHAM'S CASE BE TREASON OR NOT.

IN THE HAND-WRITING OF KING JAMES.

THE indictment is grounded upon the ſtatute of Edward the third, that he compaſſed and imagined the king's death; the indictment then is according to the law, and juſtly founded; but how is it verified? Firſt, then, I gather this concluſion, that ſince the indictment is made according to the preſcription of law, the proceſs is formal, the law is fulfilled, and the judge and jury are only to hearken to the verification of the hypotheſis, and whether the minor be well proved or not.

That his writing of this libel is an overt act, the judges themſelves do confeſs; that it was made fit for publication, the form of it bewrays the ſelf; that he kept not theſe papers in a ſecret and ſafe façon, [manner,] but in an open houſe and lidleſs caſk, both himſelf and the meſſenger do confeſs; nay, himſelf confeſſeth, that he wrote them at the deſire of an other man, to whom he ſhould have ſhown them when they had been perfected, and who craved an account for them, which, though it be denied by the other party, worketh ſufficiently againſt the deponer himſelf. Nay, he confeſſes, that in the end he meant to preach it; and though, for diminiſhing of his fault, he alledges, that he meant firſt to have taken all the bitterneſs out

of it, that excuſe is altogether abſurd; for there is no other ſtuff in, or through it all, but bitterneſs, which being taken out, it muſt be a quinteſſence of an alchimy ſpirit, without a body, or Popiſh accidents, without a ſubſtance; and then to what end would he have publiſhed ſuch a ghoſt, or ſhadow without ſubſtance, *cui bono;* and to what end did he ſo farce [ſtuff] it firſt with venom, only to ſcrape it out again; but it had been hard making that ſermon to have taſted well, that was once ſo ſpiced, *quo ſemel eſt imbuta recens*, &c. But yet this very excuſe is by himſelf overthrown again, confeſſing, that he meant to retain ſome of the moſt crafty malicious parts in it, as &c. §. [So the MS.]

The only queſtion that remains then is, whether it may be verified and proved, that, by the publiſhing of this ſermon, or rather libel of his, he compaſſed or imagined the king's death? which I prove he did, by this reaſon; had he compiled a ſermon upon any other ground, or ſtuffed the bulk of it with any other matter, and only powdered it, here and there, with ſome paſſages of reprehenſion of the king; or had he never ſo bitterly railed againſt the king, and upbraided him of any two or three, though monſtrous vices, it might yet have been ſome way excuſable; or yet had he ſpewed forth all the venom that is in this libel of his, in a railing ſpeech, either in drunkenneſs, or upon the occaſion of any ſudden paſſion or diſcontentment, it might likewiſe have been excuſed in ſome ſort; but, upon the one part, to heap up all the injuries that the hearts of men, or malice of the devil, can invent againſt the king, to

diſable him, utterly, not to be a king, not to be a Chriſtian, not to be a man, or a reaſonable creature, not worthy of breath here, nor ſalvation hereafter; and, upon the other part, not to do this haſtily or raſhly, but after long premeditation, firſt having made collections in ſcattered papers, and then reduced it to a method, in a formal treatiſe, a text choſen for the purpoſe, a prayer premitted, applying all his wits to bring out of that text what he could, *in malam partem*, againſt the king. This, I ſay, is a plain proof that he intended to compaſs or imagine, by this means, the king's deſtruction. For, will ye look upon the perſon or quality of the man, it was the far likelieſt means he could uſe to bring his wicked intention to paſs; his perſon an old unable and unweildy man; his quality a miniſter, a preacher, and that in ſo remote a part of the country, as he had no more means of acceſs to the king's perſon, than he had ability of body, or reſolution of ſpirit, to act ſuch a deſperate attempt with his own hands upon him; and, therefore, as every creature is ableſt, in their own element, either to defend themſelves, or annoy their adverſaries, as [birds] in the air, fiſhes in the waters, and ſo forth, what ſo ready and natural means had he whereby to annoy the king, as by publiſhing ſuch a ſeditious libel, and ſo, under the ſpecious pretext of conſcience, to inflame the hearts of the people againſt him. Now, here is no illation nor inference made upon the ſtatute; it ſtands *in puris naturalibus*, but only a juſt inference and probation of the guilty intention of this party. So the only thing the judges can doubt of,

is, of the delinquent's intention; and then the queſtion will be, whether if theſe reaſons be ſtronger to enforce the guiltineſs of his intention, or his bare denial to clear him, ſince nature teaches every man to defend his life as long as he may; and whether, in caſe there were a doubt herein, the judges ſhould not rather incline to that ſide wherein all probability lies: but if judges will needs truſt better the bare negative of an infamous delinquent, without expreſſing what other end he could probably have, than all the probabilities, or rather infallible conſequences upon the other part, caring more for the ſafety of ſuch a monſter, than the preſervation of a crown, in all ages following, whereupon depend the lives of many millions; happy then are all deſperate and ſeditious knaves, but the fortune of this crown is more than miſerable. *Quod Deus avertat!* *

* The manner of ſpelling uſed by King JAMES, is ſo peculiar, that it was neceſſary to change it. The language, however, is preſerved without any alteration. Some readers will be apt to think that a King ought not to employ his learning and his logic in enlarging the boundaries of high-treaſon.

THOMAS SHERLEY TO KING JAMES.

PLEASE YOUR MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY,

FIRST to pardon my boldneſs, and then to vouchſafe to bow down your gracious eye upon this encloſed paper, wherein your Majeſty may behold (if you pleaſe) the true anatomy of a moſt ruined poor gentleman; unleſs it will pleaſe your Highneſs (out of your princely benignity) to raiſe me out of the duſt, and enable me, to do your Majeſty better ſervice than hitherto I have done: and this your Majeſty may eaſily do, if you pleaſe, without any charge to you, only in forgiving me the ſeven thouſand pounds, which is yet unpaid, to the Earl of Somerſet, for my ranſom from him; whereby your Majeſty may enable me to an eſtate able to live; and only give me that which you have formerly beſtowed upon another, and I muſt pay out of my poor means, to mine utter ruin. It is the work of God to return this power into your Majeſty's hand, that thereby I may be relieved, and freed from perdition.

And, for a concluſion, I do proſtrate myſelf at your Majeſty's feet, humbly beſeething, that my miſerable ſuit be not the worſe thought of, becauſe I fly directly to your Highneſs, without any collateral means.

To your Majeſty, I vowed my life and ſervice twenty years ſince; to your Majeſty's grace, I moſt humbly

deſire to be bound. And ſo, in all humility, I leave your Majeſty to the protection of the Almighty, whom I do daily beſeech long to preſerve your royal life.

Your Majeſty's

pooreſt ſervant and ſubject,

THOMAS SHERLEY.*

The 21ſt of January, 1615.

* There were ſome very enterpriſing men of the family of SHERLEY. On the 10th of July 1600, ANTONY SHERLEY, poſſibly the father of this THOMAS, wrote to K. JAMES from Archangel, that he had disjoined the Great Sophi of Perſia from the main body of the blaſphemous ſect of the Mahometans, and that he himſelf was diſpatched by the Sophi to all Chriſtian princes, with aſſurances of the Sophi's willingneſs "to combine his arms with theirs againſt that great enemy of "God and man, the Emperor of the Turks."

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A BRIEF OF SUCH THINGS AS I DO MOST HUMBLY DESIRE YOUR MAJESTY TO PLEASE TO TAKE INTO YOUR ROYAL CONSIDERATION.

My late father and myſelf have (with all our beſt endeavours) ſerved your Majeſty both in the late Queen's time and ſithence, to both our great charges, and mine extreme peril.

Videlicet: At ſuch time as the late Earl of Eſſex was executed, my Lord of Marr, my Lord of Kinloſs, now dead, and Sir David Foulis, were ſent in embaſſage to the late Queen, theſe, in one conference, amongſt divers others with my father and me, did greatly wiſh ſome good means to be found, to furniſh your Majeſty with a round ſum of money.

Many debates there were to that purpoſe, and no likely way could be thought of, till I offered to hazard my life and eſtate, to attempt to take from the Turk (who is enemy to God and man) his treaſure, and to lay it down, being taken, at your Majeſty's feet. This project was allowed and liked.

Whereupon I rode poſt to Florence, and put myſelf into the ſervice of that Duke, for the better countenance of my buſineſs, and to have a rendezvous where to refreſh myſelf and my men.

At my return from thence I met Sir Thomas Erſkine, now Lord Fentone, at Paris; and, by expreſs command from your Majeſty, I made relation unto

him of mine expedition in this buſineſs, who did well allow of it.

At his return into Scotland, at that time, he paſſed through England, and was twice at my father's houſe in the Black-friars, and did at both times ſpur on this enterpriſe.

Then I provided for it, and went to ſea with five ſhips well furniſhed, and was overthrown by ſtorms and contrary winds. After which I ſet out three ſhips, and with them I entered into the Streights.

Both theſe voyages coſt my father fourteen thouſand pounds (for which I am (yet) the poorer). This charge I can prove by accompt.

In this latter, I was by my men betrayed, and taken priſoner by the Turks, where I continued three years in moſt unſpeakable miſery, ſuch as I would not endure the like again for ten thouſand pounds, as poor as I am.

Whilſt I was in this barbarous captivity, the Queen died, and my father (God his pleaſure being ſuch) made the worſt bargain with your Majeſty that ever was, and ſuch a one as no man living will make the like. He obtained from your Majeſty one thouſand pounds a-year, in parſonages, in fee farm, for which he doubled the rent, and bound the parſonages to pay one thouſand pounds a-year for ever, and his land the other. Theſe parſonages he ſold all, and left my land bound to pay this ſurpluſſage of rent, without any comfort, but all the loſs that this unhappy bargain yielded.

My father (being a man of excellent and working wit) did find out the device for making of baronets, which brought to your Majeſty's coffers well nigh a hundred thouſand pounds, for which he was promiſed by the late Lord of Saliſbury, Lord Treaſurer, a good recompence, which he never had.

It (once) pleaſed your Majeſty (in conſideration of the great loſſes ſuſtained by my father and myſelf) moſt graciouſly to give unto my father a grant of concealed alienations; by which means we both hoped to have recovered our great loſſes in the* ——when he was even ready to have received ſome benefit by it, the grant was taken from him by the violent inſtigation of the late Earl of Northampton.

When I returned home from my long and tedious captivity, your Majeſty was graciouſly pleaſed to afford me good countenance, gracious words, and to pity and commiſerate my miſerable eſtate, but never gave me the worth of one groat.

When God pleaſed to take my father to his mercy, I went to the court with a purpoſe to become an humble ſuiter to your Majeſty for a releaſe of my rent-charge; then, the Earl of Somerſet, being in great favour, croſſed my ſuit, and begged it for himſelf.

With him I compounded, and have paid him the whole ſum agreed, ſaving ſeven thouſand pounds; for

* There is a line or two illegible at this place.

raiſing of which money already paid, I was forced to ſell land at half the value, to mine utter undoing. He was greedy and earneſt, and my land is ſubject to ſo many croſs entanglements, as very few would buy any of it; and theſe few would not deal, but upon very unreaſonable conditions.

SIR FRANCIS BACON TO KING JAMES.†

IT MAY PLEASE YOUR MOST EXCELL. MAJESTY,

IT pleaſed your Majeſty to commit to my care and truſt for Weſtminſter-hall three particulars. That of the *Rege inconſulto*, which concerneth Mr. Murray. That of the *Commendams*, which concerneth the biſhop of Lincoln. And that of the *Habeas Corpus*, which concerneth the chancery.

Theſe cauſes, although I gave them private additions, yet they are merely, or at leaſt chiefly, yours; and the die runneth upon your royal prerogatives, diminution, or entire conſervation. Of theſe it is my duty to give your Majeſty a ſhort account.

For that of the *Rege inconſulto*, I argued the ſame in the King's Bench on Thurſday laſt. There argued on the other part Mr. George Crook, the judges brother, an able book-man, and one that was manned forth with all the furniture that the bar could give him, (I will not ſay the bench,) and with the ſtudy of a long vacation. I was to anſwer, which hath a mixture of the ſudden; and of myſelf I will not, nor cannot ſay any thing, but that my voice ſerved me well for two hours and an half; and that thoſe that underſtood no-

† This letter is not in Mr. MALLOCH's edition.

thing, could tell me that I loſt not one auditor that was preſent in the beginning, but ſtayed till the latter end. If I ſhould ſay more, there were too many witneſſes (for I never ſaw the court more full) that mought diſprove me.

My Lord Coke was pleaſed to ſay, that it was a famous argument; but, withal, he aſked me a politic and tempting queſtion; for, taking occaſion by a notable precedent I had cited, where, upon the like writ brought, all the judges in England aſſembled, and that privately, leſt they ſhould ſeem to diſpute the king's commandment; and, upon conference, with one mind, agreed, that the writ muſt be obeyed. Upon this hold, my Lord aſked me, whether I would have all the reſt of the judges called to it. I was not caught; but knowing well that the Judges of the Common-pleas were moſt of all others intereſted in reſpect of the prothonotaries, I anſwered civilly, that I could adviſe of it; but that I did not diſtruſt the court; and, beſides, I thought the caſe ſo clear, as it needed not.

Sir, I do perceive, that I have not only ſtopped, but almoſt turned the ſtream; and I ſee how things cool, by this, that the judges that were wont to call ſo hotly upon the buſineſs, when they had heard me, of themſelves, took a fortnight day to adviſe what they will do, by which time the term will be near at an end; and I know they little expected to have the matter ſo beaten down with book-law, upon which my argument wholly went; ſo that every mean ſtudent was ſatisfied. Yet, becauſe the times are yet as they are, I could

wiſh, in all humbleneſs, that your Majeſty would remember and renew your former commandment which you gave my Lord Chief Juſtice in Michaelmas term, which was, that, after he had heard your Attorney, (which is now done) he ſhould forbear furder proceeding till he had ſpoke with your Majeſty.

It concerneth your Majeſty threefold. Firſt, in this particular of Murray. Next, in the conſequence of fourteen ſeveral patents, part in Queen Eliſabeth's time, ſome in your Majeſty's time, which depend upon the like queſtion; but, chiefly, becauſe this writ is a mean provided by the antient law of England, to bring any cauſe that may concern your Majeſty, in profit or power, from the ordinary benches, to be tried and judged before your Chancellor of England, by the ordinary and legal part of his power; and your Majeſty knoweth your Chancellor is ever a principal counſellor, and inſtrument of monarchy, of immediate dependence upon the King; and therefore like to be a ſafe and tender guardian of the royal rights.

For the caſe of the commendams, a matter likewiſe of great conſequence, (though nothing near the firſt) this day I was prepared to have argued it before all the judges; but, by reaſon of the ſickneſs of the Sergeant which was provided to argue on the other ſide, although I preſſed to have had ſome other day appointed this term; yet it pleaſed divers of the judges to do me the honour, as to ſay that it was not fit any ſhould argue againſt me, upon ſo ſmall time of warning, it is adjourned to the firſt Saturday next term.

For the matter of the *habeas corpus*, I perceive this common employment of my Lord Chancellor, and my Lord Chief Juſtice in theſe examinations, is ſuch a *vinculum*, as they will not ſquare while theſe matters are in hand, ſo that there is *altum ſilentium* of that matter. God ever preſerve your Majeſty. 27th of January, 1615.

Your Majeſty's moſt humble,

and bounded ſubject and ſervant,

FR. BACON.

EARL OF PEMBROKE TO SIR EDWARD ZOUCH.

HONEST NED,

I KNOW you love your maſter dearly, and his pleaſures, which makes me put you in truſt with this buſineſs, myſelf not being able to ſtay in the town ſo late.

I pray you, therefore, as ſoon as it grows dark, fail not to ſend the cloſe cart to Baſſingborn for the ſpeckled ſow ye ſaw the king take ſuch liking unto this day; and let her be privately brought to the man of the wardrobe, by the ſame token, that I chid him for letting the other beaſts go careleſly into the garden while it was day, and he will preſently receive her into his charge. Some may think this a jeſt; but I aſſure you it is a matter of truſt and confidence; and ſo, aſſuring myſelf of your ſecret and careful performance of it, I reſt,

Your affectionate friend,

PEMBROKE. †

† This letter may be conſidered as a burleſque of the manners of ſome grave men, who are *ſecret* and *careful* about things of little more moment than the *ſpeckled ſow that* King James *took ſuch liking unto.*

A PROPOSITION FOR THE REPRESSING OF SINGULAR COMBATS OR DUELS.

IN THE HAND-WRITING OF SIR FRANCIS BACON. *

FIRST, for the ordinance which his Majesty may establish herein; I wish it may not look back to any offence past; for that strikes before it warns. I wish also it may be declared to be temporary, until a parliament; for that will be very acceptable to the parliament: and it is good to teach a parliament to work upon an edict or proclamation precedent. *The time.*

For the manner; I should think fit there be published a grave and severe proclamation, induced by the overflow of the present mischief. *The manner.*

For the ordinance itself: first, I consider that offence hath vogue only amongst noble persons, or persons of quality. I consider also, that the greatest honour for subjects of quality in a lawful monarchy, is, to have access, and approach to their Sovereign's sight and person, which is the fountain of honour; and though this be a comfort all persons of quality do not use; yet there is no good spirit but will think himself in darkness, if he be debarred of it. Therefore I do propound, that the principal *Banishment perpetual from the courts of the king, queen, and prince.*

* Not in Mr. MALLOCH's edition.

part of the puniſhment be, that the offender (in the caſes hereafter ſet down) be baniſhed perpetually from approach to the courts of the king, queen, or prince.

Secondly, That the ſame offender receive a ſtrict proſecution by the king's attorney, *ore tenus*, in the Star-Chamber; (for the fact being notorious, will always be confeſſed, and ſo made fit for an *ore tenus*). And that this proſecution be without reſpect of perſons, be the offender never ſo great, and that the fine ſet be irremiſſible.

Proſecution by ore tenus in the Star-Chamber.

Laſtly, For the caſes, that they be theſe following.

The caſes.

1. Where any ſingular combat, upon what quarrel ſoever, is acted, and performed, though death do not enſue.

2. Where any perſon paſſeth beyond the ſeas, with purpoſe to perform any ſingular combat, though it be never acted.

3. Where any perſon ſendeth a challenge.

4. Where any perſon accepteth a challenge.

5. Where any perſon carrieth or delivereth a challenge.

6. Where any perſon appointeth the field, directly or indirectly, although it be not upon any cartel or challenge in writing.

7. Where any perſon accepteth to be a ſecond in any quarrel.

MR. DU MOULIN
TO
KING JAMES.

SIRE,

Je loue Dieu de ce qu'il a conduit et addreſsé heureuſement votre voyage, vous ayant ramené au lieu de votre demeure ordinaire. Durant l'eſloignement de votre Majeſté nous n'avons pas ici manqué d'exercice. Ceſte court eſt ſemblable à la maiſon dont un eſprit malin éſtant ſorti, ſept autres eſprits pires que lui ſont entrés en ſa place. De ſorte que nous avons ſujet de ſouhaiter que ceux qui y ſont entrés de nouveau y demeurent de peur que d'autres pires ne leur ſuccedent. Le Pere Cotton, ayant quitté la court par le commandement du Roy, a quitté la place à d'autres qui ne valent pas mieux: entr'autres à un Jeſuite nommé Arnoux, fort ignorant, mais plein de venin et d'artifice, armé d'une eloquence theatrale, avec laquelle il nous deſchire et noircit comme diables en preſence du Roy. Un jour il s'aviſa d'eſplucher la confeſſion de nos egliſes devant le Roy, avec calomnies tendantes à ſedition. Qui plus eſt, il nous a envoyé un abregé de ſon ſermon, par forme de deffi, au veu et par conſentiment du Roy. Auquel ecrit nous avons reſpondu par un livre que j'ai donné a Monſieur votre ambaſſadeur, pour l'envoyer à votre Majeſté. L'epiſtre de ce livre dediée au Roy a fait un grand eſclat, pource que c'eſt un choſe inuſitée, et une hardieſſe

ſans example, d'oſer parler au Roy de la religion. Le clergé a deputé vers le Roy des prelats, qui pour nous convaincre de ſedition, ont, entre autres preuves, preſenté au Roy, le Βασιλικὸν δῶρον de voſtre Majeſté, où elle ſe plaint de quelques Puritains qui l'ont perſecutée devant ſa naiſſance: et la deſſus les gens du Roy ont fait contre nous des pourſuites criminelles, dont le peuple etant en eſmotion, le Roy pour empeſcher que cela ne cauſaſt de l'alteration en ſon eſtat, a avoqué l'affaire en ſon conſeil. Où nous avons eté appelles tous quatre pour defendre notre cauſe. Là, en plein conſeil, Monſieur le Chancelier, nous a fait une longue remonſtrance dont la ſomme eſtoit: Que notre epiſtre avoit donné au Roy ſujet de s'offenſer. Que nous pouvons en nos predications et livres parler de notre religion; mais, que le Roy ne trouve pas bon, qu'on ſollicite ſa conſcience. Qu'en ceſte epiſtre nous appellions nos Rois perſecuteurs. Que nous renouvellions la memoire des maux paſsés, que l'edict du Roy commande d'aſſopir. Que inſolement et contre verité nous nous y vantons d'avoir ſeuls mis la couronne ſur la teſte du feu Roy. Que nous y appellons nos egliſes *nos peuples*, comme ſi nous eſtions princes. Que nous taſchons de mettre le Roy en mauvais meſnage avec le Pape, lequel ſi nous ne voulons recognoiſtre en autre qualité, au moins eſt il un grand Prince et ami du Roy. Que ſi nous voulons nous enqueſter de l'ambaſſadeur du Roy de la Grande Bretagne, nous pourrons apprendre que ſitoſt qu'il ſe plaint de quelque eſcrit ou le Roy ſon maitre eſt offensé, incontinent on lui donne contente-

ment. Pour leſquelles cauſes, il nous declara, que le Roy nous defendoit de lui addreſſer aucun livre ni epiſtre ſans l'avoir premierement communiquée a ſon conſeil.

A quoi apres les ſubmiſſions requiſes, nous reſpondiſmes; qu'eſtant ſujets du Roy nous penſions avoir la liberté de lui former nos plaintes quand on nous outrage en ſa preſence. Qu'en noſtre epiſtre nous ne nommons point nos Rois perſecuteurs, mais que ſeulement nous diſons que non obſtant les perſecutions que nous avons ſouffertes ſous eux, nous leur ſommes demeurés fideles. Ce que nous diſons non par plainte, ni pour renouveller la memoire des maux paſsés, mais pour comparer nos comportemens avec ceux des Jeſuites qui nous calomnient, leſquels apres tant de biens receus, ne laiſſent de ſouſtenir que le Pape peut depoſer le Roy, auſquels nous ne voyons point que pour cela on face aucune remonſtrance. Que nous ne nous vantons pas d'avoir mis nous ſeuls la couronne ſur la teſte du Roy: mais ſeulement, que nous l'avons porté au Royaume a la pointe de l'eſpée: a quoi nous ne nions pas que pluſieurs Catholiques Romains n'ayent contribué: mais qu'eux n'ayant pas faute de perſonnes qui parlent pour eux, nous nous ſommes contentés de parler pour nous meſmes. Que ce mot, *nos peuples*, eſt une faute d'impreſſion. Que nous ſommes contents de recognoiſtre le Pape en qualité de prince, pourveu qu'il ſe veuille contenter de ceſte qualité. Je commencois à dire que nous ne comparons pas votre Majeſté avec le

Pape, mais Mr. le Chancelier m'impoſa ſilence, et nous falut ſortir.

Peu de jours apres arreſt a eſté donné au conſeil, par lequel nous eſt defendu de plus addreſſer aucun livre ou epiſtre au Roy, ſans l'avoir au preallable communiquée au conſeil.

Au meſme temps deux pirates Rochelois ayant eſté rompus ſur la roüe à Bordeaux, Mr. Cameron Eſcoſſois, miniſtre de Bordeaux, qui les avoit conſolés au ſupplice, en a ecrit des lettres conſolatoires, aux parents de ces criminels; eſquelles il loue leur repentance et conſtance en la mort. Ces lettres, inprimées a la Rochelle, ſont venues es mains de la cour de parlement de Bordeaux, qui les a fait bruſler en public par la main du bourreau, comme ſi elles taſchoient à faire deux martyrs de deux brigans, combien que à la verité il n'y a rien en ces lettres qui tende a cela.

Depuis huit jours un gentilhomme de qualité de la religion, nommé Beauvais St. Germain, a eſté pris en ſa maiſon, et mené à Moulins, où il a eſté le meſme jour decapité contre toutes formes, et ſans lui permettre la voye d'appel, par une eſtrange precipitation, ſur une accuſation de fauſſe monoye. Dont ceux qui ont eſté depuis executés apres lui l'ont deſchargé. Et cela en haine de ſa religion. La Royne eſt toûjours a Bloys, où elle eſt après a y eſtablir les Jeſuites. Les biens eccleſiaſtiques qui ont eſté tenus par ceux de la religion il y a plus de cinquante ans au pays de Bearn, leur ont eſté arrachés depuis peu de jours par arreſt du conſeil et

ont eſté rendus aux eveſques et curés, dont le pays eſt en grande eſmeute; pour ce que les villes, et les garniſons, et les charges, et offices ſont tenus par ceux de la religion, qui font demonſtration de ne vouloir ſe deſſaiſir de ce qu'ils poſſedent, par la volonté et eſtabliſſement fait [par] le feu Roy et par la Royne ſa mere. Hier les gardes furent redoublées à Mr. Le Prince ſur un advertiſement qu'on eut qu'il y avoit entrepriſe pour le tirer du priſon. Voila, Sire, l'eſtat de nos affaires, par leſquel votre Majeſté cognoiſtra que Dieu ne nous laiſſe point ſans exercice et ſans crainte pour l'avenir. Parmi ces maux nous avons ce bien, que noſtre jeune Roy n'eſt point porté de ſon naturel à la violence, et aime la juſtice, et commence à ſe faire craindre. Votre Majeſté, qui lui ſert d'exemple de vertu, et qui lui a tousjours ſuggeré des bons conſeils et ſalutaires, lui ſervira auſſi, moyennant la grace de Dieu, d'exemple de benedictions de Dieu et d'une longue proſperité. J'y porterai mes voeux, et demeurerai toute ma vie,

Sire, de votre Majeſté,

tres humble, et tres obeiſſant ſerviteur,

DU MOULIN. †

† This letter is addreſſed AU ROI, and yet Du Moulin did not mean to renounce his alledgeance to the King of France. The appeal made by the prelates of the Gallican church to the authority of King JAMES's book, in order to blacken their own puritans, is remarkable.

QUEEN ANNE OF DENMARK TO THE MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM.†

ANNA R.

MY KIND DOG.

If I have any power or credit with you, I pray you let me have a trial of it at this time, in dealing ſincerely and earneſtly with the king, that Sir Walter Raleigh's life may not be called in queſtion. If you do it, ſo that the ſucceſs anſwer my expectation, aſſure yourſelf that I will take it extraordinary kindly at your hands; and reſt one that wiſheth you well, and deſires you to continue ſtill, as you have been, a true ſervant to your maſter.

† The reader owes the publication of this ſingular paper to Dr. CHARLES LYTTLETON, Dean of Exeter, who copied it from the original in the hands of Biſhop TANNER, 1733. The character of Dean LYTTLETON affords ſufficient evidence of its authenticity.

COUNTESS OF DORSET

TO

KING JAMES.

MOST BLESSED KING,

CHRIST himſelf was not offended with the women that ſought him; and my truſt is, he directs me ſtill to your Majeſty, being ſure I have neither broken the laws of God to my huſband, nor the laws of your kingdom, neither offended you in deed, word, or thought; and therefore, as I will aſſuredly truſt in the Almighty, I ſhall never have cauſe to come to you for mercy, ſo will I never leave ſuing unto you for juſtice, knowing you are the kings of the earth, to do all rights for the King of heaven.

I humbly beſeech you, give me leave to ſpeak with you, that I may not be condemned before I anſwer for myſelf; for it remains no ſmall grief to my heart, that your Majeſty ſhould tell me I was mad, being moſt aſſured that your Majeſty's heart could not be ſo much hardened, if you heard not many more falſe tales againſt me than that. But if my importunities may offend, I beſeech you, lay the blame upon the extreme wrongs and miſeries I have endured, that have now lived three quarters of a year without any allowance for food to ſuffice nature. I have ten times (before and ſince my Lord Treaſurer's death) both ſent, written, and gone myſelf to my huſband, but can neither ſpeak

with him, nor be permitted to come within his doors; but only his ſervants anſwering me out of a window, that I muſt not come in.

My humble deſires are but theſe, that my cauſe may be heard, and my faults known; that if I have not truly deſerved thoſe ſcandals, wrongs, and infamies I have endured (which will ever remain upon me and my poſterity) I may have juſtice, and either to go home to my huſband, upon honourable terms, free from dangers, or elſe to have mine own poor fortunes, with ſuch further allowance as may maintain thoſe honours (your Majeſty was the ground of) and God now hath caſt upon me, together with the ſecuring of my eſtate I brought, which (by a purchaſe of the late Lord Treaſurer's) ſtands endangered; and I have ſued to have redreſs thereof, and, as yet, have received no juſtice.

Your Majeſty promiſed to hear me; and the word of a king is juſt; and I will hold the ſame as an inheritance to my ſoul; for which I will yield my life, with all duties,

Humbly,

at your Majeſty's feet,

AN. DORSET.

COUNTESS OF DORSET TO KING JAMES.

MY MOST DEAR SOVEREIGN,

MAY it pleaſe your Majeſty to give me leave to let you underſtand how my cauſes go in my continued afflictions.

In your Majeſty's name, I was the ſecond time committed to priſon, not yet knowing the cauſe of that commitment, and ſtill remain debarred, not only of your preſence, but of the queen's and the princes alſo, not being able to conceive the cauſe: and yet, whereas by the princely word of your Majeſty, proceeding from your own mouth, I ſhould have had 1600 l. yearly for my maintenance, in my late huſband's days, I cannot yet obtain one penny thereof, although I have been ever ſince in a chargeable ſuit for the ſame; and unleſs it ſhall pleaſe your Majeſty to ſignify to my Lord Chancellor, that it was your pleaſure (which I truſt your Majeſty doth remember) that I ſhould enjoy ſo much, my counſel inform me, that I have no way but that only to recover it.

If the greateſt enemy I have, can prove, that by any faults committed by me, either in breach of my vows to my huſband, or offence to your Majeſty, or any your laws, I did deſerve ſo great afflictions, as to be debarred of meat, drink, and other neceſſaries for the ſu-

ſtenance of my life, in my huſband's time, I intreat no favour herein: and therefore (no ſuch thing to be proved) I will ever moſt humbly ſeek juſtice at your Majeſty's hands, where I aſſure myſelf to find it.

Touching the ſuits for my dowry: I am now with exceeding much ado your Majeſty's ſworn widow; and, therefore, am much comforted to remember, that your Majeſty took an oath to Almighty God at your coronation, to defend and protect me in my juſt cauſes, your Majeſty having none other yet but myſelf in this your kingdom; neither hath the like been in the whole reigns of Queen Eliſabeth, Queen Mary, or King Edward, as I can poſſibly find with my great charges and labour; and, therefore, now moſt humbly beſeech your Majeſty to make me ſo much bound unto you, as command my Lord Chancellor, and my Lord Treaſurer, without farder delay, to ſuffer me to enjoy the benefit of your moſt princely prerogative, according to your Majeſty's laws provided in that behalf. And if I had known, or might have been ſuffered to have taken my oath, to have been your Majeſty's widow (which I often tendered in your Majeſty's courts perſonally) I might have been as near the obtaining of my dowry a year ſince as now.

And if ſtill the like courſes be offered (as have been carried againſt me in all my ſuits) give me leave, moſt Dread Sovereign, to relate them unto you, that your Majeſty, knowing them truly, may not only relieve me, but others that may happen to taſte the like miſeries, by the like delays.

And ſo I will ever pray unto the Almighty, upon the knees of my ſoul, that he will always direct your heart to truſt only thoſe whom your Majeſty ſhall find loyal and faithful: and ſo careful to ſee your Majeſty's laws duly executed, as neither favour nor affection may biaſs or pervert their proceedings therein, to the ſafety of your Majeſty, and all yours, and to the joy and comfort of your loving ſubjects in all your kingdoms.

In all humbleneſs,
your Majeſty's ſworn widow,
AN. DORSET. †

Becauſe your Majeſty is not at leiſure to hear me yourſelf, I will go and impart ſome matters to my Lord of Canterbury, hoping he will truly acquaint your Majeſty therewith.

† This letter, and the preceding one, ſeem to have been written by ANNE SPENCER, married firſt to HENRY lord COMPTON, afterwards to ROBERT earl of DORSET. COLLINS, in his Pedigree of SACKVILLE, calls her a lady of wit and ſpirit. The firſt letter muſt have been written in the 1608, the only year in which ROBERT was earl: the ſecond might have been written in any ſubſequent year before the 1618, when this lady died. For the explanation of the phraſe *King's widow*, ſee SPELMAN, Gloſſ. voc. *vidua Regis*.

SIR FRANCIS BACON TO KING JAMES.†

IT MAY PLEASE YOUR MOST EXCEL. MAJESTY,

It being one thing to ſpeak or write, ſpecially to a king in public, another thing in private. Although I have dedicated a work, or rather a portion of a work, (which at laſt I have overcome) to your Majeſty, by a public epiſtle, where I ſpeak to you in the hearing of others; yet I thought fit alſo humbly to ſeek acceſs for the ſame, not ſo much to your perſon, as to your judgment, by theſe private lines.

The work, in what colours ſoever it may be ſet forth, is no more but a new logic, teaching to invent and judge by induction (as finding ſyllogiſm incompetent for ſciences of nature) and thereby to make philoſophy and ſciences both more true and more active.

This, tending to enlarge the bounds of reaſon, and to endue man's eſtate with new value, was no improper oblation to your Majeſty, who, of men, is the greateſt maſter of reaſon, and author of beneficence.

There be two of your council, and one other biſhop of this land, that know I have been about ſome ſuch work near thirty years; ſo as I have made no haſte. And the reaſon why I have publiſhed it now, ſpecially being imperfect, is, to ſpeak plainly, becauſe I

† This letter is not in Mr. MALLET's edition.

number my days, and would have it ſaved. There is another reaſon of my ſo doing, which is, to try whether I can get help in one intended part of this work; namely, the compiling of a natural and experimental hiſtory, which muſt be the main foundation of a true and active philoſophy.

This work is but a new body of clay, whereunto your Majeſty, by your countenance and protection, may breathe life: and, to tell your Majeſty truly what I think, I account your favour may be to this work, as much as an hundred years time; for I am perſuaded, the work will gain upon men's minds in ages: but your gracing it, may make it take hold more ſwiftly; which I would be glad of, it being a work not meant for praiſe or glory, but for practice, and the good of men. One thing I confeſs I am ambitious of, with hope, which is, that, after theſe beginnings, and the wheel once ſet on going, men ſhall ſuck more truth out of Chriſtian pens than hitherto they have done out of Heathen: I ſay with hope, becauſe I hear my former book of *Advancement of learning* is well taſted in the univerſities and the Engliſh colleges abroad: and this is the ſame argument ſunken deeper; and ſo I ever humbly reſt in prayers, and all other duties,

Your Majeſty's moſt bounden,
and devoted ſervant,
FR. VERULAM, Canc.

York-houſe, this 12th
of October, 1620.

SIR HENRY YELVERTON,
ATTORNEY-GENERAL,
TO
MR. JOHN MURRAY
OF THE BED-CHAMBER.

HONOURABLE SIR,

I RECEIVED from Mr. Chancellor of the exchequer an anſwer drawn to your petition, concerning the old debts, wherein he would have me join with him. He was earneſt for the return thereof to him, but I thought I would give no conſent thereto, till you had ſeen it; I therefore ſtole ſo much time as to ſcribble it forth, and ſend you account of it, which will not pleaſe you; for there is nothing in it for good for you, or gainful to you. I have ſent it him back, without conſent, and have with a little ink ſignified ſome diſallowances. He thinks he hath done you much kindneſs, which you know beſt if it be ſo. You know his double diſpoſition, to be both full of delays, before he doth any thing, and full of reſolution, when he conceives a thing, not to alter it. I find by ſome of my honourable friends, ſome lords, ſome ladies, that this vote of the London charter, and of my proſecution for it, hath been in council and determination long, and that the great Marquis * hath it under his Majeſty's hand: Firſt, That he gave no war-

* BUCKINGHAM.

tant to me for the granting of any new liberties to the city. Secondly, That having been oft informed by Sir Edward Coke in private, when none but the marquis was present, that what was done was without warrant, and to the great loss of his Majesty; that I shall not only be cast out of my place, but his Majesty hath also promised liberty for my being called into Star-Chamber. I confess I shall be one of the last shall believe this, it doth so much transform my master from that habit of mercy, grace, and respect, he hath ever shewed me; but if the importunity of the great man hath gained so much on his Majesty's affection, as to let so severe justice fly upon so well an affected and true-hearted servant as I have been, I will bemoan my misfortune in secret, and humbly bear what he shall inflict, though I shall be the first that ever was brought to a king's service, afflicted all the time I served, and then be laid upon the wheel, as a reward for my time spent, which yet I thank God hath wholly been for his Majesty, and not for myself. Let not these things trouble you; for it is told me such things will come, and are near coming. God's will and his Majesty's be done; for it is told me the gibbet is appointed before I be heard. And, when I was on Friday last called before the Lords, Sir Edward Coke told me he had been a suitor to his Majesty, that he might have been none of the commissioners; but his Majesty would force him against his desire to be one, which shews some face of a great intended prosecution, the rather because he was then in no small jollity. And your letter, which I received late yesternight (for which

I thank you) importeth much cauſe of fear, when the commiſſioners have already reported, that neither my ſecond warrant, which I ſhewed them, is ſufficient for what is done, nor that they themſelves are in any ſort ſatisfied; which report of theirs meaneth no good to me; but as I am reſolved, in the end, be it never ſo heavy, ſo my own conſcience cleareth me, that all my proceedings have been faithful and honeſt.

The commiſſioners hereby ſeem to prejudge his Majeſty that ſigned the warrant; but I am incloſed among ſuch a company as have waited long my overthrow; for I am ignorant what warrant can be better, than when his Majeſty ſaith, what courſe ſoever I ſhall ſettle between the city and you, ſhall be well liking to him. Now, the courſe I ſettled was this, to confirm their old liberties, and to give them ſome ſmall additions of new liberties for better government, ſo as if this warrant ſerve me not, nothing could; for it is general. Secondly, Leaveth the courſe to be taken to my diſcretion. Thirdly, Promiſeth an approbation to what I ſhall do; and when ſome of the lords, as my Lord Arundel and Sir Edward Coke, ſaid to me, that warrant was not enough, I anſwered, I thought it was; and his Majeſty, and not they, muſt judge it. Howſoever, I ſaid, it could be made no error, but by conſtruction, they conſtruing it one way, and I another; at the moſt, it is but a fault of ignorance in my miſconſtruing the king's meaning ſecretly implied in thoſe general words, and no adviſed or purpoſed error. I told them likewiſe, I had warrant from his Majeſty by word of mouth; for, in truth,

at Whitehall, when I attended him about this ſervice, and he was pleaſed in ſpecial at your motion and mine, to ſay he would have the waſtes and encroachments of the city confirmed to them, though at the time he was offered 30000 l. by a great lord for them. I then propoſed to him the firſt particular liberty they deſired, which was to have him that ſhall be mayor the next year, juſtice of peace the year before, that he might be a little trained up in government before he took it upon him, which his Majeſty then approved; and I farther ſaying, they deſired ſome other petty matters, he left them to my diſcretion, wherein I hope his Majeſty will not diſavow me.

That which grieveth me moſt, is, the great noiſe this buſineſs maketh; for their ſo long and ſo often ſitting, muſt make the world believe the Attorney is a great offender.

I had hoped that his Majeſty would have taken a ſhorter courſe, as to have heard their objections and my anſwers in writing, which had ſoon been ſet down, but the policy of the lords is otherwiſe, to which his Majeſty giving way, I muſt and do humbly and willingly ſubmit.

The lords, when I was laſt before them, touched no particular fault in the charter, but asked divers other queſtions, which I anſwered, and I had thought they had ſent them to the king; ſo would I have been glad from you to have known how his Majeſty took them.

I confeſs, I being unacquainted with theſe kind of attendances, and knowing my innocency, cannot but

much be troubled, to ſee the ſnare laid for me, out of ſpleen, and much more to ſee my maſter thus deſtitute me, and giving power to them to load me with what diſgraces they can invent; and you know Sir Edward Coke wants not invention in this kind; for he can make motes beams.

I ſee the hand of God is in it; and I will wait his, and his Majeſty's leiſure, and let this act fall out either tragically or not. I ſhall deſire to redeem my quiet with the loſs and leaving of my place; for I can live contentedly with a ſallad, where four herbs are not, rather than to bear the ſhew of a place, when others do ſo much ſhadow it, For the point of Bedlam, which you pointed at when I talked with you, it is as you ſaid; but no loſs to his Majeſty; for King Henry the Eighth having made the mayor and commonalty perpetual governors, orderers, and diſpoſers of the lands he had given to Bedlam, whereby they have ever ſince diſpoſed them, and leaſed them at their pleaſure, and the crown never meddled with them, nor could by the firſt intention of the king. Mr. Recorder deſired that the lands themſelves might now be paſſed to them: Firſt, Becauſe it was directly within their petition, to have the lands, intended to them, aſſured to them. Secondly, Becauſe they found much hurt in keeping them as they did; for if either any ſtranger wronged them in theſe proviſions, or any tenant would not avoid at the end of his leaſe, they had no remedy by law to right theſe wrongs, ſo as the king loſing nothing, and the city hereby being made owners, where before they

were the only diſpoſers of them. I hope it is directly within my warrant, and am ſure the king, in honour, power, and profit, is as before.

I am ſorry I offend ſo much in length; but it is becauſe I would deſire you may fully underſtand the buſineſs, and be a helper, as you may. For which I will ever reſt,

Yours at command,

HENRY YELVERTON.

24th April, 1620.

SIR HENRY YELVERTON,
ATTORNEY-GENERAL,
TO
MR. JOHN MURRAY
OF THE BED-CHAMBER.

HONOURABLE SIR,

I WAS before the lords yeſterday, who examined Mr. Recorder, and others; I know not who they were. They alſo examined me of many particulars, but with a charge from his Majeſty, not to diſcover to any whereupon I was examined; therefore muſt be ſilent. They alſo enjoin, that I ſhall not confer with Mr. Recorder, nor with the Solicitor of the city, whereby I am bereaved of much munition and arms I might otherwiſe have; for if my being too credulous to them have not brought forth ſome errors, I dare ſwear there is no hurt done. I would have been very glad I might know the particulars wherein they take his Majeſty wronged, in honour, or in loſs; for I know I could prove they caſt their accompt amiſs; and that by no wreſted way it can appear, the loſs to 40 ſh. by year. Beſides, if it were once diſcovered, wherein they found his Majeſty pinched, the lord mayor and aldermen have this day ſent me word they will humbly and gladly renounce all thoſe particulars, and lay themſelves at his Majeſty's feet.

I muſt ſtill tell you, the confidence of my enemies is

great and joyful: and the breakfaſt a friend brought me this morning, was, that the marquis * on Sunday ſaid, he would make me the pooreſt attorney that ever was. I thank God, none of their ſpleen ſhall make me impatient. What tormenteth me, is, leſt by this means they ſettle in his Majeſty ſome opinion of my unfaithfulneſs, which will not ſo eaſily be recovered; which I ſuſpect the more, becauſe I find his Majeſty hath been ſo long acquainted with this matter, and is ſo reſerved to you, and me, and all other my friends: only my triumph is, that they ſhall never dare upbraid me with corruption or under-hand dealing.

If his Majeſty would but make me ſo happy, that I might have the words in the charter ſet down, let me be made a wonder, if I do not fully ſatisfy all them that have not promiſed to themſelves not to be ſatisfied; howbeit, herein is part of my miſery, that theſe things be grounded wholly upon courſe of law, for drawing the books, and for choice of words and of covenants. There is none of the commiſſioners that underſtands law but Sir Edward Coke; and I fear he will be content to forget it, and tranſlate it to a ſtranger ſenſe in my caſe, than he would in the caſe of ſome others; for, you know, the ſight of a white rag hung on a hedge, will make a whole herd of deer to ſtand at gaze.

But what his Majeſty appoints, I humble myſelf to it; and, ſo I were off the ſtage, I ſkill not who plays my

* Marquis of BUCKINGHAM.

part, if his Majeſty be ſettled that I have not abuſed him, which I would not do for the city of London.

The lords will keep this from burning a long time, during which, I ſhall be like a lamp, with the light downward, that quencheth itſelf. I am glad I have ſo worthy a friend, my meſſenger; for, next his Majeſty, I moſt truſt in you two. So reſt, diſtracted, unfit for any ſervice, I am ſo encumbered with this burden I may not yet be ſuffered to eaſe myſelf of; yet ſhall ever reſt,

Unfeignedly,

Your friend and ſervant,

H. YELVERTON.*

25th April, 1620.

* From this, and the preceding letter, the reader will perceive, how ill informed R. JOHNSTONE was, in ſaying, "Yelvertonus ſe cum moderatione ac judicio defendit, invitum "in donationes quas injuſte inpetratas putaret, conſenſiſſe, atque crimen in mandatarios [mandantes] depulit; quibus aut "parendum, aut procurationis officium amittendum."

Rer. Brit. l. xviii. p. 559.

THE EARL OF MELROS, SECRETARY OF STATE, TO KING JAMES.*

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

THE nobility and council being conveened in this town, as they were appointed, upon the 25th of this month, they ſpent that day and the next in deliberation upon the beſt means to give humble and effectual ſatiſfaction to your Majeſty, in your deſire of their ſupply to the defence of the Palatinate, the native patrimony of your Majeſty's grand-children; and finding ſundry things neceſſary to be proponed to your royal conſideration, which they thought could not ſo conveniently be repreſented by letter, as by more ample relation of one of their number; the Archbiſhop of Saint Andrews being very inſtantly requeſted by them all to undertake that charge, which he could not well decline, has re-

* This letter, and the following ones from the Earl of MELROS, better known by the title of Earl of HADINGTON, are publiſhed to ſhew the manner in which public affairs were conducted in our Scottiſh parliaments. A parliamentary hiſtory of Scotland, from the Union of the Crowns to the Union of the Kingdoms, anthenticated by original papers, would be a work equally entertaining and inſtructive; for ſuch a work materials may be procured; and the publiſher of this collection is willing to contribute his beſt aſſiſtance.

ſolved not to loſe any time, but has already begun his journey towards court, leſt delay might have procured your Majeſty's offence, and hindrance to that important and moſt neceſſary buſineſs, which all good ſubjects do zealouſly affect. Nothing will hinder the haſte of his paſſage, unleſs the extremity of evil weather or ſickneſs diſable him to end it ſo ſpeedily as he earneſtly intends. If your Majeſty be graciouſly pleaſed to ſuſpend your reſolution till his coming to court, your Majeſty may be aſſured, that he will either propone the means which your Majeſty will approve, or if any other courſe be unalterably determined by your Majeſty, at his return, your Majeſty's pleaſure being ſignified to the nobility and council, I verily hope it ſhall be obeyed to the uttermoſt of their abilities, which I humbly remit to your gracious conſideration. And earneſtly praying God long to preſerve your Majeſty's life, health, and proſperity, which aſſure the accompliſhment of all the wiſhes of your ſubjects for their perfect wealth and peace, I reſt,

Your moſt ſacred Majeſty's

moſt humble, faithful,

and ever bound ſervant and ſubject,

MELROS.

Edinburgh, 29th January, 1621.

EARL OF MELROS, SECRETARY OF STATE, TO KING JAMES.

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

THE Lords Chancellor, Treaſurer, and I, according to the commandment of your Majeſty's letter to us, met with the Lord Archbiſhop of Saint Andrews, and adviſed upon the matters mentioned in the letter, and others related by him to us by your Majeſty's direction; and agreed, in uniform opinion, that we could noway preſume to nominate a commiſſioner to your Majeſty. Your own experience and knowledge of the noblemens ſufficiency and diſpoſitions, and your incomparable wiſdom, being only able to make the fitteſt choice; ſo that we can meddle no farther in that point, but humbly to pray your Majeſty, to conſider, that the perſon to be truſted with that weighty charge, muſt, in the honourable exerciſe thereof, be forced to be at great expences, and ſo will need ſome relief from your royal bounty.

Anent [Concerning] the ſum of the contribution, we could proceed no further, but to conclude, that we muſt all ſtudy to extend it to the greateſt quantity that the country can bear; and, for that purpoſe, to prepare all with whom we can have opportunity to confer before the parliament, to yield to the higheſt rate, and to perſuade others to do the like; and to foree-

the beſt reaſons and means, that may induce every eſtate to a very large contribution, according to our aſſured good hopes.

We reaſoned upon the form of the impoſition, and of the manner of payment thereof, not forgetting the large help which may be exacted of the wealthier ſort, which heretofore have been free of all taxations, they neither being church-men, landed men, nor burgeſſes, neither could it be well ſeen how they might be brought under the neceſſity of contribution. For removing this doubt, I propoued, that the ordinary taxation, being granted in large quantity, might be impoſed upon the eſtates in the accuſtomed manner; and an act of parliament obtained, ordaining that the wealthy annualrenters ſhould contribute to the ſupply of your Majeſty's moſt important and neceſſary preſent affairs; for which effect, commiſſion ſhould be given to a ſelected number, to call and tax them to a reaſonable proportion of ſubſidy, according to their ſtock and rent; and to ſummon them, by open proclamation, to compear at a certain day, to give up a true declaration of the ſums for which they received annualrent, by infeftment, bond, or other ſecurity whatſomever; and, if need was, upon denial, to put them to oath, or to prove againſt them by writ; with certification, that all the ſums concealed by them ſhall be confiſcated to your Majeſty, whenever they ſhould be diſcovered; and if the debtor would dilate them, he ſhould be free of the third of his debt, for his pains, he paying to your Majeſty the two part thereof, which the lords conſented

to: and if this courſe receive your Majeſty's approbation, it ſhall be proponed, and carefully proſecuted.

It was thought by us, that your Majeſty's diſcharge of bypaſt contraventions of the penal ſtatutes will greatly encourage the people, now ſtanding in fear of vexation, by reports of ſome mens intentions to beg warrants to trouble the ſubjects by ſuch purſuits, to grant the more willingly to a large taxation; and that much more may be expected, if it ſhall be allowed to come in at ſundry terms, nor [than] if it ſhall be preſſed to be paid all at one diet. [term.]

My Lord of Saint Andrews told me, that your Majeſty had directed him, to command me, to ſend up a warrant for appointing a commiſſioner, which I ſend herewith; and that I ſhould alſo ſend the frame of a letter to be directed to the eſtates, which I have likewiſe obeyed, but with juſt fear that the prolixity may offend your Majeſty; and that more ſhall be found in it to delete or alter, nor [than] to be allowed; but I ſhall hope that your Majeſty's accuſtomed grace and bounty to me ſhall procure my faithful obedience to be accepted for ſacrifice: and, thank God, that I have a royal maſter, excellent above all other in well-doing, ſpeaking, and writing, to pardon, cover, and amend my defects: and, as in France, their king is accounted the firſt ſecretary of eſtate, and has aſſigned to him (as they term it), *la premiere bourſe* of their fees; ſo I am aſſured, that when all the beſt ſecretaries of the world ſhall be conveened, they will be found inferior to your Majeſty in the ſkill of their own profeſſion; and I

being one of the moſt incapable, muſt regrete and excuſe my errors, with the misfortune of wanting the happineſs of your Majeſty's particular directions, and ſtill have recourſe to your Majeſty's gracious and benign conſtruction, which, with innumerable other benefits and favours, ſhall make me inceſſantly to beſeech God, to continue his bleſſings to your Majeſty's ſubjects, by your long and happy life, and ever to comfort and ſtrengthen your royal mind with the proſperous ſucceſs of your princely enterprizes, and accompliſhment of your deſires.

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble, faithful,

and eternally bound ſervant,

MELROS.

Edinburgh, 29th March,
1621.

KING JAMES TO THE PARLIAMENT OF SCOTLAND.

JAMES R.

RIGHT REVEREND FATHERS IN GOD, OUR RIGHT TRUSTY AND WELL BELOVED COUNSELLORS, AND RIGHT TRUSTY AND WELL BELOVED COUSINS AND COUNSELLORS, AND OTHERS OUR TRUSTY AND WELL BELOVED SUBJECTS, COMMISSIONERS FOR THE SMALL BURROWS IN OUR PARLIAMENT NOW ASSEMBLED, WE GREET YOU HEARTILY WELL.

OUR longer exercise in the school of experience nor [than] any Christian prince now living, having teached us, that the licentious life of man doth not breed more new and dangerous diseases in the body, nor [than] his corrupt affections produceth daily new disorders in the state, which more necessarily require speedy cure from the care and wisdom of the prince, nor [than] bodily infirmities need the help of faithful and skilful physicians. We were thereby possessed with an earnest desire and resolution, to have this year, in our own person, kept our parliament in that our kingdom, that so we might have rather seen nor [than] heard the desires of our loving subjects, and they feel the accustomed fruits of our fatherly care of their good. But the combustions of Christendom (to which many, out of cruel

and malicious intentions, add oil, and few have either ſuch care or credit for quenching thereof as ourſelf) have forced us to preſer the neceſſity of procuring the peace of Europe, and ſafety of the profeſſions of true religion, mercileſly perſecuted by greateſt powers, to our own weightieſt affairs, and moſt earneſt deſires; and, nevertheleſs, leſt the progreſs of diſorders, and delay of their redreſs, might make the diſeaſe dangerous, if not deſperate, before our being there, (which we undoubtedly intend by God's grace this next year,) we have directed our right truſty and right well beloved couſin and counſellor, the Marquis of Hamilton, as our commiſſioner, to ſupply our abſence in this preſent parliament, which our nobility and council, by their ſeveral letters, have earneſtly requeſted us to indict this preſent year; and have commanded him to ſignify to you, that the chief cauſe of his employment, is, to give conſent, in our name, to the redreſs of ſuch diſorders as ye ſhall propone, requiring preſent reformation; and to declare to you our pleaſure anent [concerning] the expeding of ſuch acts, as we (out of our natural and wonted zeal to religion and juſtice) have thought expedient for good order and policy both in the church and eſtate. We have alſo directed him to make known to our eſtates, the preſent condition, not only of our own affairs, but alſo of foreign princes and ſtates, and with what inceſſant ſolicitude we have dealt with the ambaſſadors of neighbour princes and republics reſident at our court, to procure free and ſafe exerciſe of religion to theſe that are joined with us in profeſſion of the true goſpel, and re-

ſtitution of their eſtates, forcibly uſurped by their powerful neighbours, and have performed the like offices by our ordinary and extraordinary ambaſſadors, ſent, at our infinite charges, to the moſt part of the princes and ſtates of Chriſtendom; wherein, albeit conjunction in religion has been our chief reſpect, yet the diſtreſſed eſtate of our ſon-in-law, adding an particular intereſt of nature and honour, has compelled us to beſtow exceſſive ſums of money, both for the charges of his maintenance, and of our deareſt daughter, and of their many hopeful children, and likewiſe for the Electrix dowager his mother, ſince the power of their enemies, having diſpoſſeſſed them of the greateſt part of their patrimony, has forced them, for their ſafety, to retire to the Low Countries. How extraordinary their burdens are to us, hardly can any man conſider; but every man knoweth that it is impoſſible to bear them, without the large help of faithful ſubjects well affected to our juſt courſes. It is almoſt a year ſince we ſignified to our nobility and council, the neceſſity of their ſupply in this urgent occaſion, whoſe anſwers, by their letters to be re[illegible]o you, will expreſs the cauſe of the delays, and aſſurance of their affections. We have heard of late, that ſome, either not well affected to the cauſe, or ignorant of the true ſtate of affairs, have travelled to poſſeſs our people with an opinion, that, ſince by treves procured by us, the charges of war are diminiſhed, that there is little need of contribution: but faithful ſubjects will wiſely conſider how exorbitant our bypaſt charges have been, and how exceſſive our debt contrac-

ted upon that neceſſity is, and how it daily grows by the numbers of ambaſſadors ſent by us to all princes, and that the debt muſt either be repaid, or our credit and honour ſo wounded, as when we ſhall have moſt to do, we ſhall find no ſuch ſupply as the ſurety of our ſubjects and eſtates may require. Some there are, that dare ſay, that we, being in peace with our neighbour princes, have no need to furniſh charges to the wars of others, whom we take to be no better than traitors and atheiſts *; for ſince the war doth in a part concern our ſon-in-law, and our grand-children, we muſt diſclaim nature, if we ſhall not partake of that war, if, by our mediation, we ſhall not procure their peace and reſtitution of their eſtates: beſides, that religion being aſſaulted by that war, and the wars in France and the Low Countries, muſt we not confeſs, that if they continue and grow, *noſtra agitur tunc res paries cum proximus ardet.* Others, more heady, are bold to ſay, that their contribution would have been more ready, if in time we had embraced the war, who merit no other anſwer, but *dulce bellum inexpertis, et nullum bellum juſtum niſi quod neceſſarium;* and ſince peace muſt be the end of war, princes have ever been thought more wiſe and juſt who have entertained peace, and prevented, and in time pacified wars, nor [than] ſuch, as after the deſolations of that ſcourge of God's wrath have not thought of peace till deſtruction of men by ſword, peſt, and famine, the devaſtations of towns, churches, and whole countries, the violated chaſtity of women of all

* Never was the term ATHEIST ſo oddly applied.

ſorts and ages, and the blood of ſucking babes, had pol-luted, deſolated, and diſpeopled the land of men, goods, and all things neceſſary for human ſociety, and ſo diſabled thoſe brutiſh princes, born for the miſchief of mankind, longer to proſecute the unbridled and unbounded malice of their avaritious and ambitious minds. The laſt aſſault given to the good affections of our ſubjects, is, the repreſenting of the poverty of that our kingdom, and ſcarcity of monies, whereof we are ſorry, and have directed our commiſſioner to concur with you in the means of remedy thereof, willing you to conſider, that it is not ſo much the importance of the ſums which ye are able to contribute that we reſpect, as the trial of your affections; and that your ſtraining yourſelves to your uttermoſt abilities, may give example to your neighbours of greater wealth to do the like in their due proportion. When ye ſhall weigh the neceſſity of the cauſes of our deſires, the importance of the affairs both for religion and ſtate, and ſhall remember what obligations of retribution are impoſed upon you, by our many graces, favours, and liberalities, not only to the moſt part of all the ſubjects of that our kingdom in their particular, but to every ſtate and whole body of the kingdom in general, we are confident, that at this occaſion (more neceſſary than any other that ever occurred in our life) ye will increaſe your wonted contribution as the ſtate of the affairs requires, and as ye are bound to us, who, for your ſafety and peace, incline to the counſel given by the oracle to Philip of Macedon, to make wars with money, which is rather

to prevent and quench wars with great charges, nor [than] unneceſſarily maintain it with incomprehenſible harms incident to that peſt. Many other things, concerning our affairs and your good, are by our direction to be imparted to you by our ſaid commiſſioner, whom we require you to truſt and to reſpect, as one who being near to our perſon, and acquainted with our affairs, and good intentions, hath ſeemed moſt fit to us for the preſent charge; and, as by him we ſhall know your proceedings, we ſhall remember and reward your duties according to your deſervings; which we hope and wiſh to prove, according to our deſigns and dealings toward you; and ſo bid you heartily farewel.

Given at our manner of Theobalds the 13th of July, 1621.

EARL OF MELROS, SECRETARY OF STATE,

TO

KING JAMES,

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

NECESSARY duty commands me to give your Majeſty advertiſement of the proceeding of matters concerning your Majeſty's parliament, of this your Majeſty's kingdom; and my exerciſe therein, refuſing me leiſure to do it orderly, forces me to beg your Majeſty's gracious pardon, rather to do it in rude form and ſtile, nor [than] by curioſity of thoſe, to neglect any points of ſubſtance. The marquis of Hamilton, your Majeſty's commiſſioner came to Edinburgh, upon the 18th of this month, and met no ſooner ſome noblemen and barons upon his way, but, after interchanged courteſies, he began to require their aſſiſtance in his charge of your Majeſty's ſervice. The next day he conferred with the Dean of Winchcſter, and Archbiſhop of St. Andrews, of church matters, and others, concerning your royal directions in parliament, and then met with ſome few of your moſt truſted officers and counſellors: and leſt the reſt of the council and nobility ſhould ſuſpect that concluſions were made by a few number, and they neglected, he conveened them all upon Saturday, and by their advice, reſolved upon the time of ſencing the parliament, day of the riding of the eſtates, and courſe to be

kept for preventing contentions, trouble or diſorders; upon Sunday in the afternoon, and Monday, he continued his dealing with particular men of every eſtate, and ſpecially the noblemen, whoſe favour he preſſed to conciliate, by hearty converſation and feaſting; but, hearing upon Monday afternoon, that a mad miniſter of Morton, called Simpſon, had made a fooliſh and malicious ſermon in the Gray-friars church of this town, upon Sunday in the afternoon, and that Mr. Andrew Duncan, ſometime miniſter of Crail, and, for ſundry contempts done to the biſhops, now deprived, had given to the clerk of regiſter a ſupplication to have been preſented to the parliament, impugning, in effect, the articles of the aſſembly of Perth; whom two miniſters, the archbiſhop of St. Andrews and I cauſed to be apprehended by the captain of the guard; your Majeſty's commiſſioner did preſently conveen the council, where they were accuſed, and, upon notoriety of their offences, were preſently ſent priſoners to the caſtle of Dumbarton; and, upon knowledge that the commiſſioners of the Burrows had aſſembled themſelves for affairs concerning their eſtate, and that ſome nine or ten miniſters had importunely obtained entry and audience of them, and exhorted them not to allow in parliament the articles of Perth, offering to read and deliver to them their ſupplication and proteſtation like to that other given by Mr. Andrew Duncan to the clerk of regiſter, your Majeſty's commiſſioner, by advice of the council, ordained a proclamation to be made, declaring, that,

upon knowledge had of the ſeditious behaviour of ſome miniſters, who, to the ſcandal of their profeſſion, having left their flocks and due charge, were come to Edinburgh, to ſtir ſedition, and trouble the courſe juſtly intended by your Majeſty for the good of the eſtate and church; therefore they were all commanded to void the town, and return to their charge (except ſuch, as verifying to their ordinarys the lawfulneſs and neceſſity of their affairs, ſhould obtain their licence to remain) under the pain of horning and preſent impriſonment; which being publiſhed, hath freed the town and eſtates of that tumultuous crew. Upon the 25th, the eſtates being ready to ride to the parliament-houſe, Langton ingyring [officiouſly preſenting] himſelf to take poſſeſſion of the office of uſher to your Majeſty, which neither he nor any of his predeceſſors had enjoyed in any living man's memory, and being firſt requeſted, and thereafter charged, diſobeying both, was, for his contempt, ſent to the caſtle of Edinburgh. Immediately thereafter a contention aroſe between the lords Hay and Keith, for their privileges in keeping and guarding the parliament-houſe, which being difficultly ſettled, the eſtates rode to the tolbooth in great number, and good order; being conveened, your Majeſty's commiſſion was read, and then the archbiſhop of St. Andrews made an excellent ſermon, of the honour and obedience due by ſubjects to princes, of tribute and cuſtom to be paid to them; and expoued wittily the word *Reddite*, aſcribing it to due and neceſſary payment, and

not to giving, adducing the examples of Christ's own payment of tribute, and his mother's taking him in his cradle to Jerusalem, where the whole Jews were, by the law of God, commanded yearly to conveen and pay tribute. He alledged many examples of the loss and ruin of kingdoms and estates for neglecting to contribute to supply the wars of their princes, and most notably the loss of Constantinople, and the empire of the Orient, applying all to the justice and necessity of your Majesty's present desire, which he amplified by all convenient circumstances. Last, he brought handsomely in the purpose of the church articles; and, amongst other reasons, proponed the acknowledgment contained in the first Confession of Faith made after the Reformation, ratified by act of parliament 1567, acknowledging that church discipline and rites could not be perpetually unchangeable, but were upon good considerations alterable, and so being indifferent; and the articles now introduced being lawful and expedient, needed no other warrant but the judgment of our King so religious, wise, learned, and just, as the world had not seen his equal. After him spake your Majesty's commissioner, of the charge imposed by your Majesty upon him, his sense of his own insufficiency and necessity of the obedience, regreting that he could not worthily relate your royal directions, with such grace as might prove answerable to the expression of your love of this people, which was the only reason of his employment. That the parliament was indicted at the earnest request of the nobility

and council, the juſt cauſes of your Majeſty's deſire of ſupply notour to the world, not for any ambition upon your part to increaſe the power of your ſon-in-law, or his children, with other mens eſtates. That war being begun by the people of Bohemia, impatient of the heavy yoke impoſed upon their perſons and conſciences, and their ſubtle and inſtant introduction of your Majeſty's ſon-in-law to undertake their protection more raſhly nor [than] your Majeſty's either known or after-knowledge allowed; but the progreſs of the uſual accidents of war having brought upon him diſadvantages and loſſes, which, not being remedied, would tend to his eternal ruin and diſperſing of your grand-children, your Majeſty was forced to contribute great ſums for his defence, not of intention to maintain a continual war; but to avert his utter overthrow, till by your royal care and wiſdom ye might by mediation and treaty procure peace and reſtitution of his patrimony, wherein the charges of your ambaſſadors, ordinary and extraordinary, ſent to the moſt part of the princes and eſtates of Chriſtendom were ſo great, as could not be duly conſidered by ſuch as were not privy to matters of ſuch conſequence, not communicable to the vulgar ſort; and while, as your Majeſty was in good hope of ſettling that great war, ye were drawn under new trouble and charges, by the wars of the Valteline, France, and the Low Countries, whereof no ſettling could be expected but by your Majeſty, whom God had endued with ſo extraordinary wiſdom, graces, and authority, that the

Chriſtian world acknowledged you alone for arbiter of their controverſies; that the manifeſt danger of religion in all the parts of Chriſtendom did more nearly touch your religious heart, nor [than] the intereſt of your children, ſeeing the world knew, that in the matching of your daughter (matchleſs for virtue) your Majeſty upon conſideration of the frailty of man's life, albeit that your dear ſon then promiſed that which God hath ſince performed in him by ſtrength of body, happineſs of health, and accompliſhment of all princely virtues; yet, deſiring that, if God ſhould appoint him to die without iſſue of his body (which God defend) [forbid] the world might ſee that your Majeſty did not ſo much affect the honour of more eminent, powerful, and wealthy alliance by her with Papiſts, who, not ſeeking money with her, would, as it were, have bribed your Majeſty with infinite treaſures to have granted to them the honour of your royal alliance, you, out of mere zeal to religion had, as it were, entailed your poſterity to the protection of religion, by her marriage with an excellent prince of our profeſſion*. Thereafter he expreſſed the zeal and forwardneſs of our neighbour country at full, and ſpecially of the Londoners, who had forbidden feaſting, when your Majeſty's grand-

* King JAMES had not always entertained ſuch thoughts; for, by his inſtructions to Sir Michael Balfour at the court of Florence in the 1601, it appears, that he propoſed to give the Princeſs Eliſabeth in marriage to the Great Duke's ſon.

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children would have been compelled to faſt, if your natural and religious bounty had not royally furniſhed them all princely charges; and, therefore, exhorted the eſtates to increaſe the quantity of their wonted contributions, according to the importance of the preſent eſtate of affairs, rather to ſtir up our neighbours by expreſſion of their affection, nor [than] the value of the ſum, aſſuring them, in your Majeſty's name, that if they ſhould at this time behave themſelves thankfully and worthily, your Majeſty meant not hereafter to trouble them with furniſhing more monies. Laſt, he recommended the affairs of the church, and that they would therein remember the bypaſt proofs of your excellent knowledge, great care and travels for maintaining and promoting religion; the public teſtimonies of your admired works, reverenced by the learneſt of the world; the malice of adverſaries preſſing to procure your death (which God avert) as the higheſt of their hopes and deſires for prevailing againſt all the profeſſors of the truth. He roughly inveighed againſt thoſe who treaſonably ſlandered your Majeſty with intention to introduce all Engliſh ceremonies, but ſpecially againſt thoſe who ſpoke of Papiſtry or liberty of conſcience, aſſuring them, that if they would obey and confirm the acts already made, your Majeſty would never intend any future alteration*. He enlarged thoſe grounds in ſo good terms, as all the eſtates acknowledged how well he had profited under the

* It would have been well if this promiſe had been remembered by the unfortunate ſucceſſor of King JAMES.

hand of the beſt maſter in the world. The public ſpeeches were concluded by my Lord Chancellor, whoſe deſcription of the dignity of a parliament, and honour of the particular eſtates and members thereof, in ſo high ſtile, and learned ſubſtance, as did exceed the capacity of many of the vulgar auditors. He cloſed with a pithy exhortation for the contribution, and church affairs. Thereafter the Lords of Articles were choſen with ſuch dexterity, that no man was elected (one only excepted) but theſe who by a private roll were ſelected as beſt affected to your Majeſty's ſervice. A propoſition was made, containing a novelty anent [concerning] meeting of all the nobility after the articles were concluded, to ſit and conſider of them before they were ratified by public parliament, which was ſo dexterouſly uſed, as I hope no harm ſhall enſue. I had almoſt forgotten, that your Majeſty having juſtly blamed my errors, in the firſt draught I ſent of a letter to have been ſent by your Majeſty to the eſtates, and being pleaſed to declare that you would cauſe reform it, and ſend it down, when I perceived that it had not been remembered, and that time would not permit to ſtay till it might be required and had, I rather took boldneſs to adventure to preſent that, whereof I ſend herewith the copy authorized by warrant entruſted by your Majeſty to your commiſſioner, nor [than] that the parliament ſhould either deſert or delay too long. If it pleaſe God to make me ſo happy, as that my conjectural ſtile be no more offenſive to your Majeſty, nor [than] it was to the e-

ſtates, and that your Majeſty may be pleaſed to ſend me an warrant in writ, pardoning that which I was forced to adventure for the good of your ſervices, I ſhall humbly thank his Heavenly Majeſty, and always beſeech him to grant to your Majeſty all the bleſſings that your royal heart, and the hearty affections of your faithful people beg to you at his bountiful hands. And reſt,

Your Majeſty's humbleſt,

and moſt obliged of all

your faithful ſervants,

MELROS.

Edinburgh, 26th July, 1621.

EARL OF MELROS, SECRETARY OF STATE,

TO

KING JAMES.

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

WEARINESS, and ſome pain in my eye, forced me to uſe my brother's hand in the letters I wrote yeſterday of that had then paſt in matters concerning the parliament. Thereafter the Lords of Articles met, and, after reading your Majeſty's letter to the parliament, and the other two which the convention of the nobility and council ſent this winter to your Majeſty, the taxation was mentioned by your commiſſioner, with ſo ample and judicious expreſſions of your Majeſty's infinite charges, furniſhed to the entertainment of the forces of the princes of the union, very long, and of the army commanded by General Vere; beſide, your name at ſea, and the charges of your children and grand-childrens maintenance, which enforced undeniable neceſſity of ſupply, they had only reaſon to conſider what difference was in the cauſes and nature of this preſent action (the event whereof may, in worldly appearance, import the preſervation or overthrow of religion in all Europe, and the uphold or perpetual ruin of that moſt antient famous and princely eſtate of the Palatinate) and theſe of former times. This propoſition, ſtrengthened by many reaſons pertinently alledged by the Lord Chancellor, Mar, and others, faithfully diſpoſed to the good

of the purpoſe, after long and modeſt reaſoning, produced an uniform reſolution, that a taxation behoved to be granted. The next queſtion being of the quantity, my Lord of Saint Andrews alledged a precedent of King David's ranſom, amounting to three hundred thouſand merks, or, as others write, an hundred thouſand merks; as likewiſe the ſums paid for King James the firſt his redemption; which, conſidered, according to the ſcarcity of monies in that age, and abundance thereof in all the world at this time, might inform us how great a ſum was now requiſite for the reaſons proponed by my Lord Commiſſioner. Then my Lord of Scoone's opinion being demanded, he roundly told, that he had his honour, eſtate, and whole fortune of your Majeſty, and would beſtow them, and his life in your Majeſty's ſervice, thinking ten hundred thouſand merks a competent ſum, whereof he would readily pay his part, and what further your Majeſty pleaſed to command. That ſum being thought exorbitant, I anſwered, that my Lord of Saint Andrews's true examples imported much more, becauſe an hundred thouſand merks in King James's days, was an hundred thouſand merks weight of ſilver, whereof every merk weight being eight ounces of ſilver, would amount at three pound the ounce, as it now gives, to four and twenty hundred thouſand pounds. In the end, it was concluded, that where the greateſt taxation that ever was before, was four hundred thouſand merks, paid in four years, there ſhould now be given four hundred thouſand pounds in three years; for it is appointed to be paid at four May-

ſinmas terms, whereof the firſt will be Martinmas next, and ſo be compleat that time three years. The lords thought it more fit that the act ſhould be conceived in theſe terms, that the pound land holden of your Majeſty ſhould pay thirty ſhillings yearly, and the kirk lands, and teinds, and burrows, the like proportion, which in effect is four hundred thouſand pounds, nor [than] that the expreſſion of the ſum ſhould inform the world of the ſmalneſs of our means when they are racked to extremity.

The next article was anent [concerning] the taxations of annualrents, wherein the novelty bred difficulty, and the intereſt of the commiſſioners of burrows, and others, ſtrict oppoſition; but, becauſe I knew much of their eſtate, and of the nature of that courſe, which myſelf, amongſt others, have long exerciſed with benefit, I preſſed to detect the ſecret of their pretexts; and, after great altercation, rather than reaſoning, it was concluded, that all annualrents ſhould pay tax without immunity of any eſtate or perſon. The means of trial, quantity, and terms of payment, reſt to be conſidered. The good ſucceſs of what has paſt, makes us to hope for the like in that which reſts concerning the church articles. I pray God I may have ſpeedy occaſion to ſend your Majeſty contented advertiſement thereof: and that he may be pleaſed to bleſs and long preſerve your ſacred perſon, and proſper your affairs, I reſt,

Your Majeſty's moſt humble, faithful,
and bound ſervant and ſubject,

Edin. 27th July, 1621. MELROS.

EARL OF MELROS, SECRETARY OF STATE,

TO

KING JAMES.

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

My letters of the 26th and 27th of July have informed your Majesty of things done at that time in parliament. Thereafter the church articles were allowed by the Lords of Articles with good uniformity. Since that time there has not arisen any great controversy in the house for matters of moment: the articles proponed either being found profitable for the country, or, if they concerned particular parties, they were lawfully concluded after hearing of the parties interested; only the taxation of the annualrents has been much impugned by the burgesses, and some small barons, upon pretext of the harm which they may suffer in their credit, if their debts shall be unnecessarily discovered; who have been answered with clear and just reasons; but they still persist in their opposition, albeit with more modesty than others, who not being of the articles, and having craved permission to convene to prepare motions to be proponed to the articles, have converted the favour, obtained upon that specious pretext, to a meeting of noblemen and barons, who are reported to have dealt so passionately against the confirmation of the church articles, and the taxation of annualrents, that your Majesty's commissioner was forced to dis-

charge the abuſed liberty of their aſſembling; and, ſince that time, has been forced to take ſo continual travel to diſſolve their combination, and, by the aſſiſtance of all his friends, duly affected to your Majeſty's ſervice, to convert them to their duty, as has permitted ſmall time of reſt or ſleep to him. He inclined to have cauſed puniſh ſome of the moſt avowedly malicious; but, the error being almoſt popular, he was counſelled to forbear offenſive rigour, and to ſtudy to calm and reclaim them by more mild means; and is in hope to prevail ſo with a number of them, that they ſhall either ſtay and concur in your Majeſty's ſervice, or abſent themſelves, and ſo do no harm. The reſt, who ſhall be found irrecoverably malicious, will be made known to your Majeſty, who may and can beſt judge of their merits. I can promiſe no further as yet, but good hope, with aſſurance of more pains, patience, and wiſdom in your Majeſty's commiſſioner, faithfully aſſiſted by ſome of your Majeſty's ſervants, nor [than] could have been believed. God, who has ever directed your Majeſty's juſt intentions to wiſhed end, will overcome the malice of this oppoſition to your Majeſty's contentment; which I pray his Heavenly Majeſty long to grant in all your royal affairs. And reſt,

Your Majeſty's moſt humble,
and bound ſervant,
MELROS.

Edinburgh, 2d Auguſt,
1621.

EARL OF MELROS, SECRETARY OF STATE,

TO

KING JAMES.

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

HAVING written my other letter upon the ſecond of Auguſt in the morning, this is to render your Majeſty account of what is ſince ſyne [ſince that time] done in articles. That day your Commiſſioner, at five a'clock in the morning, began his conſultation with the Archbiſhop of Saint Andrews, Lord Carnegie, Clerk of Regiſter, Dean of Wincheſter, and me, by what friends means he might either reconquer the oppoſites who had vote in parliament, or perſuade or compel them by lawful order to be abſent; and, according to our joint opinions, put all his friepds to work where their credit might beſt prevail; and then entered to the articles at ten a'clock; and remaining till eight at night, diſpatched ſo many affairs, juſt of themſelves, and gracious to the people, as ſerved for powerful inducements to divers of each eſtate to favour his deſires for your Majeſty's ſervice. We are in good hopes to obtain the church articles ratified with the ordinary taxation; our greateſt doubt is of the taxation of annualrents, which many abhor, as a novelty, and a diſcovery of their miſery, and overthrow of their credit. For preventing of which diſturbance, upon the ſecond, at night, a meeting of the articles was appointed to be upon the

third, at ſeven in the morning, to conſider of the beſt expedient, inclining rather to diſpenſe with the extremity, that thereby we may obtain a preparative of an aid wanting all preceding example, and a diverſion of oppoſition to the church articles (which we think more important nor [than] the odds of a triſle of that ſubſidy) nor [than] by inſiſting upon a very ſmall difference, in a money matter, to trouble or overthrow a better buſineſs. What ſhall be reſolved ſhall be ſpeedily ſubjoined to theſe lines.

Since the writing of what precedes, the Lords of Articles have this morning met and peaceably concluded, extreme diligence will be uſed to ſet all men right. The event muſt be remitted to God, in whoſe aſſiſtance we confide, and beſeech him to bleſs this buſineſs, and all your royal deſires. And reſt,

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble, faithful,

and obedient ſubject and ſervant,

MELROS.

Your Majeſty's Commiſſioner expects that his diligence in well-doing will excuſe his not writing, which is always natural to him, and now neceſſary.

Edinburgh, 3d Auguſt, 1621.

EARL OF MELROS, SECRETARY OF STATE,

TO

KING JAMES.

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

YOUR Majeſty's parliament of this your kingdom is this afternoon happily concluded. The church articles had oppoſition; but the well affected prevailed by ſeven and twenty votes; albeit we were exceedingly diſappointed by the treachery of ſome ſmall burrows, who violated their promiſes, and were recompenſed by your Commiſſioner's refuſing to authorize their acts and ratifications.

In the act of the taxation, at firſt, there kythed [appeared] ſome danger, by the voices of lords who granted the ordinary taxation, and refuſed the taxation of annualrents; but my Lord Commiſſioner preſſing them to give anſwer directly, that they either granted or refuſed the act of taxation, ſince it was only one act, the reſt became aſhamed to refuſe; ſo as the oppoſites to that act were ſcarce ten, as the Clerk of Regiſter's incloſed ticket will teſtify.

Other laws and private acts paſt without contradiction. The concluſion was by a ſpeech of your Majeſty's Commiſſioner, renewing the aſſurances of your Majeſty's conſtant favour to this nation; your zeal to the defence of pure religion; your earneſt deſire to relieve your people of burdens; to protect them from violence;

to introduce all examples and effects of piety and juſtice amongſt them; to increaſe trade and commerce; and to exempt them from the grief of the pains of bypaſt tranſgreſſions of ſtatutes impoſing pecunial pains; which being a moſt acceptable farewel to the whole eſtates, was met with the hearty wiſhes of all the people for your Majeſty's long and proſperous life.

I muſt not forget the Commiſſioner's ſharp cenſure of ſuch as had abuſed the toleration of private meetings of the eſtates, with advertiſement, that the like would not hereafter be ſuffered. The particular account will be more amply given by larger letters, and by the Dean of Wincheſter and Lord of Scoone, who, ſo ſoon as the articles for the church and taxation were ended, they went to their horſe, and will relate all particulars, and every man's behaviour. I may truly affirm theirs to have been exceeding faithful and forward, and that your Majeſty's Commiſſioner, by his obſerving your excellent inſtructions, has effected the wiſhes of your faithful ſervants, and overcome the buſy malice and ſubtilty of the adverſaries, which I muſt aſſign to the happineſs of your royal courſes, ſo well grounded upon wiſdom and juſtice, as they cannot want ſucceſs. I have thought it would be more agreeable to your Majeſty to know this truth abruptly, nor [than] an more exact report more ſlowly. And, praying for the like proſperity in all your royal affairs, I reſt,

Your Majeſty's moſt humble,

and moſt obedient ſubject and ſervant,

Edin. 4th Aug. 1621. MELROS.

NARRATIVE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST ANTONIO DE DOMINIS, ARCHBISHOP OF SPALATO, AFTER HIS DEATH. *

THE late Archbiſhop of Spalato being dead, his body was put into a coffin, and that into another bigger coffin well pitched, and was carried (*in depoſito*) into the convent of the holy apoſtles, and committed into the hands of thoſe reverend fathers, until ſuch time as the cauſe of the ſaid Archbiſhop was ended, to the end, that, according to the ſentence, it might be diſpoſed of, as in juſtice ſhould be thought fit. And, in this manner, the ſentence being given, and ready to be put in execution, the ſaid body was taken away in the night the twentieth of this preſent from the place where it was depoſited, being firſt legally reviewed, and was carried into the church of Minerva, and ſet upon a table in an e-

* There are ſeveral MS. papers concerning Antonio de Dominis to be found in the Advocate's Library at Edinburgh; the ſubſtance of them ſhall be here ſubjoined.

In a Latin letter to CYRILL, Patriarch of Alexandria, he obſerves, that many of the Weſtern churches, become corrupt through eaſe and luxury, now groaned under Papal thraldom; that he himſelf, born, educated, and dignified under the Roman rod, [*ſub virgâ Romanâ*] had long experienced the antient Aegyptian darkneſs in the Weſtern Aegypt, under that cruel Pharaoh: that at length he was conſtrained to take refuge in the land of Goſhen, where all is light: that this he effected, with the aſſiſtance of Heaven, having arrived almoſt a year ago in England. There he could ſafely and freely contend for the

minent place, with his picture, and a bag of books, ſet forth in print by him, where it ſtood all that night, and the next morning. At the hour appointed, the cardinals of the high inquiſition, being come together, with many others, to the number of ſeventeen or thereabout, (after they had committed to the ſecular power a certain man of Milan, who, under a counterfeit name, and habit of a Grecian, having not taken orders, preſumed to ſay maſs in the holy houſe of Loreto, and in other places, who the twenty-third of this preſent was hanged, and afterwards burned) the ſentence of the ſaid Archbiſhop was read in form following. Firſt was rehearſed the manner of his running away; his going into England; the works made by him in word, writing, and print; and how, acknowledging his error, he made ſupplication unto the Pope, that he would willingly return to the boſom of the holy church, and abjure all and every hereſy, if he might be aſſured of his pardon. He

truth; for there the cauſe of Chriſt triumphed under the protection of a moſt religious and wiſe monarch, the true defender of the antient Catholic faith.

He ſends CYRILL his firſt work, *De Republicâ Eccleſiaſticâ*, as a teſtimony of his earneſt deſire of holding communion with the Greek church. He ſays, that in this work he has defended the Eaſtern churches, eſpecially that of Conſtantinople, and vindicated them from the calumnies of the Romaniſts; that he had aſſerted all the antient rights of the patriarchs; deprived the biſhop of Rome of his abſolute primacy, and reduced him to his proper rank; that he hoped CYRILL would find in this work an *antidote* againſt the *weapons* of the Jeſuits. He then entreats him to think ſeriouſly of an union of the

came to Rome, performed all that, obtained grace and pardon of the holy father, where he lived a long time; but, becauſe his converſion was feigned, and not ſincere and from his heart, he began, in familiar diſcourſe, to break forth into moſt grievous hereſies, and to maintain whatſoever he ſaid to be true. The inquiſition was informed thereof; and it appeareth by the proceeding againſt him, that he held the hereſies following:

1. That the Council of Trent hath declared many things to be articles of faith which are not.

2. That all the ſects of heretics might have been reduced to one church, if the church of Rome would have yielded in ſome of thoſe things, which, in proceſs of time, it determined to be *de fide*, inſtancing in particular the article of tranſubſtantiation.

3. That there might union be made between the church of Rome and the Proteſtant heretics, agreeing together in the fundamental points.

Greek churches under his care with the moſt flouriſhing church of England; for, ſays he, ſuch an union being once made, we ſhall eaſily prevail over Pharaoh, or rather over Antichriſt, and remove his tyranny from the church of our Lord. He concludes, with exhorting CYRILL to communicate whatever difficulties he might have as to this union, either to the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, or to him, the writer, and to exert his utmoſt efforts *for extinguiſhing a ſchiſm ſo inveterate*.

What anſwer was returned to this letter does not appear; but there is a letter of compliment from CYRILL to Archbiſhop Abbot, dated 16th July, wherein much is ſaid in commendation of the church of England, and of *ſapientiſſimus Jacobus*, as CYRILL terms the King.

4. That it may be disputed whether some articles and many things, determined to be *de fide* in the Council of Trent, were sufficiently discussed and defined.

5. That whosoever holds and believes the fundamental articles, although he hold not the other, is not separated from the church, but is united with it in faith, because only the fundamental and essential articles are necessary to salvation, the others are disputable.

6. That what the Council of Trent hath defined to be *de fide* in matter of justification, predestination, grace, and the sacraments, that they confer grace, *ex opere operato*, doth not appertain unto faith.

7. That he was ready to maintain, even with his life, that all men might *abundare in sensu suo*, so that they agreed *in essentialibus fidei*.

8. That the supremacy of the bishop of Rome is not *de jure divino*, or at least that it may be disputed whether it is or is not, looking for a definition thereof.

From a paper intitled, "Manifesto the Archbishop of Spalato," it appears that he was invited and encouraged in the name of the Pope and of the King of Spain to leave England.

The following particulars are collected from a letter written by him, upon his return to Rome, to one of his nephews. Having obtained a passport from King JAMES, by the good offices of the Imperial minister, he left London. The custom-house officers seized his silver plate, and part of his money; but the King ordered restitution to be made. On payment of 1000 crowns, the Archbishop got back his silver-plate; but his money, to the value of 2500 crowns, he never recovered.

On his arrival at Brussels, he was entertained by the Pope's Nuntio, in consequence of orders from his Holi-

9. That the anathemas of the Council of Trent are no definitions of articles of faith.

10. That the heretics were not condemned in the Council of Trent, becauſe they taught hereſies, but only becauſe they accuſed the church of Rome of hereſy.

11. That to deny tranſubſtantiation, purgatory, adoration of the images of ſaints, is not to deny things which appertain to the ſubſtance of faith, which, becauſe Proteſtants have the true faith, is the true church.

12. That the church of Rome and the church of England are one and the ſame church, and both the one and the other catholic and orthodox.

13. That it is not *de fide*, that the general council, together with the Pope, is judge of controverſies of faith.

14. That the bond of matrimony, ratified and conſummated, may be diſſolved by adultery of one of the parties.

neſs, and received by him into the boſom of the church.

After a reſidence of ſome months in the Low Countries, he ſet out for Italy. His train in horſes, coaches, and attendants, was magnificent; and the fooliſh old Archbiſhop deſcribes it with all the minuteneſs and exultation which might have been expected from ſome low-born girl, newly put in poſſeſſion of titles and equipage.

In his journey through the dominions of different Roman Catholic princes he was treated with much reſpect; and, on his arrival in the Papal territories, with diſtinguiſhed marks of honour, *paſſando ſempre*, as he ſays himſelf, *con la mia famiglia honorata e cavalli che facevano ſtupire etiam i grandi.*

At Rome he was lodged near the reſidence of the Pope, had

15. That the bond of matrimony may be diſſolved, even for other cauſes beſides adultery.

16. That a temporal prince may for a reaſonable cauſe decree, that the bond of matrimony, ratified and conſummated, may be diſſolved.

There were alſo other articles, but they are all contained in theſe.

Theſe falſe and heretical propoſitions being read, it was declared how that the kindred of the ſaid Archbiſhop, and whoſoever elſe would come to make defence in the cauſe of the ſaid Archbiſhop, were ſummoned to appear, and that ſome made their appearance within the time limited, who ſeeing the proceeding, and the ſaid Archbiſhop's own confeſſions, did renounce, and would meddle no further; wherenpon the ſaid inquiſitors proceeded to judgment, which was to declare him unworthy of the grace of the Holy Apoſtolic See; to deprive him of all honourable degree, benefice and dig-

a maintenance allowed for himſelf and his domeſticks, and one of the coaches of the Cardinal nephew conſtantly at his diſpoſal. He adds, that he was well-looked upon, beloved, and eſteemed by all.

The next account of him is from a place, *from whoſe bourn no traveller returns*, — from the priſon of the Inquiſition. There he ſeems to have had the cruel taſk impoſed upon him, of confuting his own works. "Il Padre Commiſſario del ſant'offizio," ſays he, "m'avisò d'ordine, come diſſe, di S. Santa ch'io portaſſi le mie vere et efficaci ſolutioni, che doveſſero ſoddisfar il parer loro et gli eccitai. Adunque vedevano, ch'io dicevo il vero, che molti argomenti non erano degli ſcrittori Catolici à baſtanza ſufficienti, ſe bene erano ſolubili, et io li ſcioglieva tuttavia

nity; to confiscate all his goods, and to put him over to the secular power; which then was done; that his picture, and the books made by him, should be burned.

This said sentence being read, the aforesaid coffin, picture, and books, were committed to the Governor of Rome, who was then present, and desired that the body might be again viewed and acknowledged; which was done; whereupon orders were presently given by the said Governor, that the body, together with those other things, should be carried into the place called Campo di Fiore, to be there burned. But, because they could not find any that would carry it into the said place, the serjeants took certain porters, whom they bound, and led them, being so bound, to take up the said body, picture, and books, which they carried into Campo di Fiore, where they were straightway burned.

Now, because the said Archbishop, in the end of his life, shewed himself penitent for the heresies which he

" l'aiuto di Dio. E ne ho già dato saggio nel primo mio libro " delle RETRATTAZIONI già apparecchiato e mostrato, nel " quale sciolgo il grande argomento della equalità tra gli apo- " stoli tutti, non mai fin 'ora à bastanza sciolto da alcuno scrit- " tore Catolico, e così farò de gli altri: perche se ben è vero, " che molti argomenti miei non sono stati sciolti, non perciò lo " professo, che siano insolubili, ch'io nelle RETRATTAZIONI " m'afferisco di sciorli tutti."

It appears, however, from the narrative of the Archbishop's sentence, that neither his learned recantations, nor his professions of orthodoxy, could satisfy the reverend fathers of the inquisition.

Too much, perhaps, has been said concerning a person

had again held after abjuration, and aſked pardon for them, he was admitted to the holy ſacraments; but, becauſe he was relapſed, he was for that reaſon committed to the ſecular power; which is all that happened in this action.

whoſe fame greatly exceeded his literary and controverſial merit. From his hiſtory, men may be apt to conclude, that the importation of proſelytes from the Romiſh church is no very beneficial trade; and that to confer diſtinguiſhed favours, and heap preferments on one whoſe ſincerity is not well-tried, is a meaſure neither juſt nor politic.

EARL OF MELROS, SECRETARY OF STATE,

TO

KING JAMES.

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

THE letter written by James Douglas, by your Majeſty's direction, to the Lord Chancellor and me, adverti ſing us of his Highneſs's ſudden journey to Spain, being ſent by my Lord Chancellor to me, I no ſooner underſtood thereby your royal pleaſure, that ſiniſter rumours of that unexpected reſolution might be ſuppreſſed, and as little ſpeech of it diſperſed as could be; but, foreſeeing that ſermons were to be made the next day in all the churches of the town, I preſently ſent for Mr. William Struthers, and directed him to warn all his colleagues to forbear all mention of that matter, till, by better occaſion of knowledge of your Majeſty's will, they might underſtand how to behave themſelves dutifully in a purpoſe of ſuch moment. And, incontinent thereafter, I diſpatched letters to the Archbiſhops to take the like order with the miniſters of their provinces, which was all, that, in a caſe ſo much perplexing my mind, I could conceive to be moſt fit to effect your Majeſty's pleaſure; albeit, I fear it ſhall not work ſo fully as I could wiſh, becauſe the abuſe of the poſts, of whoſe ſlowneſs I have many times complained, has, in this occaſion, anſwered my apprehenſion. For that letter ſent to us, being di-

rected from New-market, by packet, for life, the 21ſt of February, at eight at night, came not to me till the firſt of March, at ſix at night. The information of his Highneſs's journey being known here two days ſooner, as well by letters from London, as by relation of ſuch as came from London to this town by ſea. By which means the rumour being ſo diſperſed, nothing now reſteth, but to make the beſt conſtructions that may be thought of, till we ſhall know your Majeſty's particular directions, which I humbly deſire may be with diligence. And, in the mean time, I ſhall add to my inceſſant prayers, for your Majeſty's long and conſtant proſperity, my faithful and hearty petitions to God, that his Highneſs's journey, fraughted with our fears for the great travel and manifold dangers incident to that paſſage and return, may tend to his honour and ſafety, and your Majeſty's contentment; and ſhall till my death remain,

Your ſacred Majeſty's

moſt humble, faithful,

and bound ſubject and ſervant,

MELROS.

Edinburgh, 3d March, 1623.

EARL OF BRISTOL

TO

KING JAMES.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

I MUST confeſs, I am ſo much tranſported, firſt with admiration, then with joy, of the ſafe arrival of the Prince and my Lord Marquis of Buckingham, that I know I ſhall have need to begin this letter with an apology for a diſtracted diſpatch. But I conceive the good news which it will carry in the front, that both the Prince and my Lord Marquis are ſafe and well, and were never merrier in their lives, will excuſe all defects.

Upon Friday, which was the 7th of this month, about eight of the clock at night, the Prince and my Lord of Buckingham, without any other company but their poſtilion, arrived at my houſe, where my Lord Marquis meeting at the door with Henry Jermin, a ſon of Sir Thomas Jermin's, told him that his name was Smith, and that he had met my ſervant Greſly by the way, who had fallen into thieves hands, by whom he had been very ill uſed, and had all his letters taken away; that he had promiſed to come and tell me of it; but excuſed his coming up to ſee me; for that he ſaid he had got a fall, and hurt one of his legs, ſo that he could not come up ſtairs, but with great pain. Whilſt H. Jermin was making this relation unto me, Sir,

Digby went to ſee who it was, and knew my Lord of Buckingham, but diſſembled it ſo well, that before I could come to him, he had got him up to his chamber, and went preſently down to the Prince (who ſtood all this while in the ſtreet with his poſtilion) and brought him likewiſe ſo handſomely up to his chamber, that there I found them both together, and we carried the buſineſs ſo dextrouſly, that that night they were undiſcovered by any, till the next morning, by the coming of Mr. Secretary Cottington and Endimion Porter, the ſecret was revealed, for as much as concerned my Lord of Buckingham: and that morning I ſent word unto the Conde of Gondemar, that my Lord of Buckingham was come, who preſently apprehended, that the Prince was not far off, and came home to my houſe to viſit my Lord Marquis, of whoſe being here the Conde of Olivares having likewiſe gotten notice, ſent to deſire leave to come and viſit him, but my Lord of Buckingham very earneſtly excuſing it, about four of the clock in the afternoon the Conde ſent a coach for him, wherein went only my Lord Marquis, the Conde of Gondemar, Sir Walter Aſton, and myſelf, by a private way into the Park, where we found the Conde of Olivares expecting us, and there he ſat in the coach with my Lord of Buckingham, and entertained him almoſt an hour and a half, within which time there paſſed ſo much expreſſion of joy, and ſo great a declaration of a grateful acceptation of this action, as I dare confidently ſay unto your Majeſty, that whatſoever I have formerly written of their profeſſions, hath been by many degrees

exceeded, as I doubt not but your Majeſty will receive from my Lord of Buckingham's pen. Then the Conde had us up by a back way into the King's private rooms, where my Lord Marquis had audience of the King, who received my Lord with ſo much alacrity and freeneſs, that I never ſaw the Spaniſh gravity laid aſide before, nor any man more overtaken with joy than the King was; for he ſecretly underſtood of the Prince's being here. I ſhall only in this particular ſay thus much, (leaving the reſt unto my Lord) that they then parted, the King much ſatisfied with my Lord, and he infinitely admiring the young King. Afterwards the Conde of Olivares deſired leave of the King, that he might come along with us, and kiſs the Prince his hands, (as he did) and there to the Prince himſelf made the ſame profeſſions he had unto my Lord Marquis of Buckingham, and would by no means cover himſelf before the Prince, but made ſo great expreſſions of reſpect and the eſteem which both the King and his miniſters held themſelves obliged to make of the honour which they had received by this his coming, that I preſume his Highneſs remained very much contented and ſatisfied therewith; and though I muſt confeſs, ingenuouſly, that if your Majeſty had been pleaſed to ask my advice concerning the Prince his coming in this manner, I ſhould rather have diſſuaded than given any ſuch counſel, eſpecially before the coming of the diſpenſation: yet, ſince it hath pleaſed God, that he is ſo ſafely arrived, and that by theſe good beginnings, there are ſo great hopes of good ſucceſs, I cannot but account it a happineſs, and

ſhall, by God's aſſiſtance, contribute faithfully and induſtriouſly all that ſhall be in me, for the bringing of this great work unto perfection, with as much ſpeed as may be. That very night my Lord Marquis having intimated the great deſire the Prince had as ſoon as might be to ſee his miſtreſs, they acquainted the King therewith, who was ſo forward therein, that notwithſtanding that the next day was Sunday, and in Lent, yet he diſpenſed with his gravity, ſo far as to go in a coach abroad, to a place called the Prado, which is a hole without the town, where men do take the air, with his ſiſter with him, and all the court, where the Prince was to ſtand diſguiſed in a coach to ſee them. The Prince had with him in the coach my Lord Marquis, the Conde of Gondemar, Sir Walter Aſton, myſelf, and Endimion Porter, and we were guided by the Conde of Gondemar, who brought the Prince to ſuch a part where the King was to paſs by; and ſo we were removed three ſeveral times, that the Prince had a full ſight of them all. As the King was going homewards, the Conde of Olivares leapt out of the coach he was in, and came running into the Prince his coach to wait on him, and ſo gave three or four turns in the coach, and then attended him into my houſe, where he told the Prince, that the King, his maſter, had not patience to abſtain longer from ſeeing him, and acknowledging with his own mouth the great honour which by this his coming he had done him, and deſired that he might come that night home to the Prince. But thereunto his Highneſs would by no means condeſcend, but ſaid he would ra-

ther go to the palace privately to ſee the King. But both of theſe courſes being in courteſy refuſed on the one part and the other, it was in the end reſolved, that late in the night they ſhould meet in the Prado. And becauſe it was night, the Conde of Olivares ſaid, merrily, that his maſter muſt come equally accompanied; and that the Prince being like to bring with him two ambaſſadors and his Secretary, he would take away my Lord of Buckingham and Porter for interpreter with him; and that they ſhould come as Spaniards with the King; with this company only the King came to the Prado; with the Prince went the Conde of Gondemar, Sir Walter Aſton, myſelf, and Mr. Cottington; when we came there, we found the King, who preſently lighted out of his coach, and met the Prince, and then they ſaluted one another with as much courteſy as was poſſible; and they preſently entered into the King's coach alone, where I ſerved as interpreter betwixt them; and, after much ſtriving in courteſy, who ſhould give the place, which the King conſtrained the Prince to take, I can aſſure your Majeſty, that greater profeſſions or acknowledgments could not proceed from a Prince than were made unto his Highneſs by the King, as I doubt not but from his Highneſs your Majeſty will underſtand. Having ſpent half an hour, or thereabouts, in diſcourſe, the King would needs bring the Prince to his coach on foot, which the Prince would not permit, but could not hinder him from going more than half way. And this is the account which I can give your Majeſty of what hath paſſed till after twelve of the clock in the night upon

Sunday the ninth of March, when, God be thanked, both the Prince and my Lord Marquis were very merry, and in perfect health. And I humbly beſeech your Majeſty to pardon me, that I have ſo long deferred the diſpatching of a poſt to advertiſe you of the Prince his ſafe arrival, which I would have done at the very inſtant, but that both his Highneſs and my Lord Marquis were not pleaſed that I ſhould ſend away any body till they had ſomewhat to write. But hereafter, God willing, I will never let many days paſs together, without giving your Majeſty an account of the Prince his health, and of the further progreſs of theſe ſo comfortable and good beginnings.

I will conclude with telling your Majeſty only this, that for the ſucceſs it is in the hands of God; and I am glad that I was kept ignorant of the courſe that hath been taken; for that I ſhould as much as I might directly have proteſted againſt it. But if it ſhall pleaſe God, that things do end as happily as they have begun hopefully, I ſhall think that God hath therein had his particular working much beyond any human prudency, and ſo wiſhing unto your Majeſty all happineſs, I moſt humbly recommend you to the holy protection of God. And reſt,

Your Majeſty's moſt humble,

and moſt faithful ſubject and ſervant,

BRISTOL.

Madrid, the 10th of March,

1622. St. Vet.

EARL OF CARLILE TO KING JAMES.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MOST EXCEL. MAJESTY,

IT will not be diſpleaſing to your Majeſty, if I repeat again the ſame thing, which I pray God may be the *refrein* of all my letters; and that is, that as his Highneſs was never in more perfect health, ſo his carriage is to the ſingular admiration of this court and people; and I am confident, that when it ſhall pleaſe God to reſtore him again into England, he will declare to have made ſo great good uſe of the experience of this journey, as ſhall give no leſs cauſe of rejoicing to them that were moſt tenderly affected, than they ſhewed to have before of apprehenſion. In the mean time, I dare boldly aſſure your Majeſty, that his well-grounded piety and knowledge of the religion wherein he was bred, is infinitely confirmed and corroborated by the ſpectacles which he hath ſeen of their devotions here. And your Majeſty's moſt excellent ſervant, my Lord Admiral, doth carry himſelf with ſuch nobleneſs, wiſdom, and vigilance in your Majeſty's ſervice, as his virtues do illuſtrate your Majeſty's glory and wiſdom, in making choice of ſo worthy an object of your favour*.

* Wretched, indeed, is the condition of princes, when their greateſt and moſt inexcuſeable weakneſſes are not only juſtified but applauded.

And now I will caſt myſelf, in all humble reverence, at your Majeſty's feet, to kiſs your royal hands, in acknowledgment of your gracious favours to my ſon and myſelf ſince my departure. I moſt humbly beſeech your Majeſty to believe that you have ſowed in a fruitful ſoil, which ſhall render you a plentiful harveſt of reverence, humility, loyalty, and love, which ſhall laſt as long as we live. I am, and ſo will die,

Your Majeſty's moſt humble,

moſt obedient,

and moſt obliged creature,

ſubject and ſervant,

CARLILE.

Madrid, the 5th of April,
1623.

SECRETARY COTTINGTON TO KING JAMES.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

You do ſo many ways underſtand all that paſſeth here, as nothing is left for this your Majeſty's poor, humble, and faithful ſervant to tell you; and yet I may peradventure light upon ſome paſſages which others have not.

This King's love to the Prince, my maſter, ſeems every day to increaſe; he is continually with him, and ſays often, that he will one day follow him to London; and this morning he ſaid, that he deſired nothing ſo much as to ſee your Majeſty. The little Cardinal Don Ferdinando is ſtrangely enamoured of the Prince, and his Highneſs with the Cardinal, ſo as they have much ado to keep the Cardinal from him any time of the day.

I was interpreter for my Lord Marquis when he ſpoke with the Infanta Dona Maria. She inquired for your Majeſty's health before ſhe would hear any thing elſe. But when my Lord came to ſpeak of the Prince, ſhe bluſhed extremely; and his Highneſs hath ſince ſpoken with her himſelf (having often ſeen her) and likes her ſo well, as without all doubt ſhe will be with child before ſhe get into England, though they

make never ſo much haſte. Others will tell your Majeſty the good news we have from Rome, and more particularly you will underſtand it (and all) by my Lord of Carlile's relation; for the Prince is reſolved to ſend him inſtantly to your Majeſty; and it is not here amiſs to tell you, that my Lord of Carlile is much in love with this court, and with this people, amongſt whom is ſo general a rejoicing for the Prince his being here, as cannot well be expreſſed.----Every day hath new entertainments and ſport. But nothing hath ſo much joyed our heart as the good news of your Majeſty's health, without which all would be ſadneſs and affliction. My Lord Marquis often drinks your Majeſty's health, with ſo much contentment to ſpeak of you, and to remember you, as the tears fall from his eyes, for which I am his ſlave, and do heartily pray for him, and ſerve him with all the poor means I have.

No hour paſſeth in which I do not remember how much I am bound to ſpend my life in doing your Majeſty the leaſt ſervice in the world; and God Almighty knows that I deſire nothing more than an occaſion for it; and the advertiſement which is given me of your Majeſty's moſt gracious favour and care towards my poor wife, puts yet a greater obligation on me, if it were poſſible: and here I moſt humbly beſeech your Majeſty to continue that comfort to that poor deſolate woman, with whom I remained only four days, and came this journey, without telling her whither I went, notwithſtanding I love her as much as a man can love a

woman. I hear ſhe is extremely afflicted; and ſo it appears by her letters.

Beſeeching the Almighty God ever to bleſs and proſper your Majeſty, I reſt,

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble ſervant,

FRA. COTTINGTON.

Madrid the 8th of April,
1623, Stylo Vet.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.*

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

I SHALL make you wonder at a reſolution I have taken never to enquire more after your health; you can bear me witneſs, that I have never given credit to thoſe that undertake to have the philoſopher's ſtone, eſpecially when they become takers themſelves, as my devil hath now proved himſelf; if he blow as profitably with all the world beſides as he hath done with me, he will have little need of the philoſopher's ſtone; yet, if all be true he hath aſſured to me, I ſhall think my four hundred pound † well beſtowed: I confeſs, ſo long as he concealed the means he wrought by, I deſpiſed all he ſaid; but when he told me, that which he hath given your Soveraignſhip, to preſerve you from all ſickneſs ever hereafter, was extracted out of a t----, I admired the fellow; and for theſe reaſons, that, being a ſtranger to you, yet he had found out the kind you are come of, and your natural affections and appetite, and ſo, like a skilful man, hath given you natural phyſic,

* From a multitude of the Duke's letters to King JAMES, the following are ſelected as the moſt curious and characteriſtical. Their general addreſs is, *To the beſt of maſters.*

† Is there not an act of parliament which determines that it ſhould be POUNDS?

which is the only means to preſerve the radical humour. And thus I conclude, my ſow * is healthful, my devil's lucky, myſelf is happy, and needs no more than your bleſſing, which is my true philoſopher's ſtone, upon which I build as on a rock.

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble ſlave and dog,

STINIE.

Here is a gentleman called Sir FRANCIS LEAKE, who hath likewiſe a philoſopher's ſtone; 'tis worth but eight thouſand; he will give it me, if you will make him a baron; I will, if you command not the contrary, have his patent ready for you to ſign, when I come down; he is of good religion, well born, and hath a good eſtate. I pray you burn this letter.

* By this delicate appellation, the Duke probably meant his wife.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

I HAVE ſent this mettled poſt to be an eye-witneſs of your ſecond day's hunting, if want of ſleep will give him leave, having undertaken to ride all night, to hunt with you all day, and be with me before ſupper back again, ſo that wearineſs do not prevent him; I hear you have got a good ſtomach ſince your being there; but I fear your liberality doth not give you leave to eat a good bit, being well acquainted with that old cuſtom of yours of ever giving away the beſt. We both have fed of nothing elſe; and though they have all proved fat and tender, yet not being eaten at your ſonſy * lucky table, they wanted that ſauce which makes all ſavoury. Let this bearer bring me news of your health and mirth; and then I crave no more but your bleſſing for

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble ſlave and dog,

STINIE.

* The Scottiſh word *ſonſy*, anſwers preciſely to the modern Engliſh word *jolly*.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

THOUGH I have received three or four letters from you ſince I wrote laſt, yet, as Tom Badger ſays, I am not behind-hand with you; for I have made a hundred anſwers to them in my mind; yet none that could ſatisfy my mind; for kinder letters never ſervant received from maſter; and for ſo great a king to deſcend ſo low, as to his humbleſt ſlave and ſervant, to communicate himſelf in a ſtyle of ſuch good-fellowſhip, with expreſſions of more care than ſervants have of maſters, than phyſicians have of their patients, (which hath largely appeared to me in ſickneſs and in health) of more tenderneſs than fathers have of children, of more friendſhip than between equals, of more affection than between lovers of the beſt kind, man and wife, what can I return! nothing but ſilence; for if I ſpeak, I muſt be ſawcy, and ſay this, or ſhort of what is due, my purveyor, my good fellow, my phyſician, my maker, my friend, my father, my all, I heartily and humbly thank you for all you do, and all I have. Judge what unequal language this is in itſelf, but eſpecially conſidering the thing that muſt ſpeak it, and the perſon to whom it muſt be ſpoken. Now, tell me whether I have not done diſcreetly, to be ſilent all this while; 'tis time I ſhould

be ſo again, or elſe commit a fault in wearying him, that never wearies to do me good. Then thus I'll end. I begin my journey to morrow. I ſhall have the prince to wait of. We ſhall ly at Theobalds. The one will hunt hinds and does, the other ſurvey the trees, walks, ponds, and deer. The next day after lay ourſelves at your feet, there crave your bleſſing; then give an account of Theobalds's park to the beſt of men, though not of the kind of man, yet made by man, more than man, like a man, both artificial man, and my moſt natural Sovereign, who, by innumerable favours, hath made me,

Your Majeſty's

both humble ſlave and dog.

STINIE.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

YESTERDAY we got hither ſo early, that I had time to ſee over a good part of my works here. This afternoon I will ſee the reſt. I proteſt to God, the chiefeſt pleaſure I have in them, is, that I hope they will pleaſe you, and that they have all come by and from you. I am now going to give my redeemer thanks for my maker. The afternoon I will ſpend in viewing the reſt. To-morrow my *mother and wife* * threaten to be early up, being of my mind impatient to be with you, we ſhall have need of a coach of yours or BABIE CHARLES, to make the way ſhort. I could write to the equeries to ſend them to Thurlo, ſeven miles on this ſide New-market; but I will be beholden to none but my kind maſter and purveyor, who never failed me when I had need; therefore beſtir thee, and [two words illegible] duty. I will give no thanks for nothing till I may do it on my knees; ſo I crave your bleſſing, as

Your Majeſty's
moſt humble ſlave and dog,
STINIE.

* The Duke uſes, in a ſhorter phraſe, the figure of *pars pro toto*, well known in vulgar rhetoric.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

I HAVE ſent Watt Montague this morning into France with the copy of theſe things you reſolved of with the French ambaſſador, that our ambaſſadors may no more complain for want of timely advertiſements. The Spaniſh agent will be with me before I can have well ended this letter. Gondemar's man was with me this morning. The diſcourſe I had with him, I am ſure will not only be pleaſing to you, but make you laugh; the moſt part of the morning I ſpent with the French ambaſſador, and yet could not make an end; wherefore he hath earneſtly entreated me to ſtay this day in town, as likewiſe to ſee that diſpatch he will ſend into France: he makes no queſtion of an anſwer from thence anſwerable to your heart's deſire: I confeſs I believe it, and the rather becauſe I know they dare do no otherwiſe; and I am ſure you now begin to laugh in your ſleeve to ſee yourſelf ſo courted of all ſides, and that all their actions turn ſo to your advantage*. Dear Dad, ſince I cannot come to-night, let this haſty letter give thanks for the true, favourable, and moſt affectionate interpretation of my ſtaying here; and God never relieve me

* The common language of ſhallow ſtateſmen to credulous and ignorant kings.

when I have moſt need of it, if it be not a ſeparating of myſelf when I am from you; and in lieu of having comfort and my heart eaſe by you, to ſerve you, I give myſelf nothing but trouble and vexation. To-morrow, without fail, I will wait of you, and, if it be poſſible, bring *my mother and wife* with me. In the mean time, for much take a little, which is my humble thanks, for not only cloathing my out-ſide, but filling my in, and with ſuch precious bits, as was only fit for you, but will proſper the better when you aid this. I humbly crave your bleſſing, as

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble ſlave and dog.

STINIE.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

As neceſſity enforces me, inſtead of repairing to you, according to your command, and my promiſe, to go many miles from you another way, and conſequently from myſelf, all my perfect joys and pleaſures chiefly, nay ſolely, conſiſting in attending your perſon; ſo methinks duty and good manners commands me, on the other part, to give you an account under my own hand, though it be yet ſomething unſteady and weak. But, before I give the reaſons of the change of my former reſolution, there is a thing not much in exerciſe now in this world, called Thankfulneſs, that calls ſo faſt and earneſtly upon me, that I muſt firſt, though I have already done it by the aſſiſtance of a young gentleman, called BABIE CHARLES, whom you likewiſe, by your good offices, made my friend, who, without doubt, hath already perfectlier made my thanks than I ſhall myſelf, yet, having the pen in my hand, I muſt needs tell you what I obſerve in your late abſent and public favour, but antient manner of obliging your poor unworthy ſervant, whereby I find you ſtill one and the ſame dear and indulgent maſter you were ever to me, never being contented to overvalue and love me your-

ſelf, but to labour all manner of way to make the whole world do ſo too. Beſides, this aſſures me, you truſt me as abſolutely, as ever, largely expreſt in this, that you have no conceit of my popularity, otherwiſe why ſhould you thus ſtudy to endear me with the upper and lower houſe of parliament, and ſo conſequently with your whole kingdom; all, and the leaſt I can ſay, is this, that I naturally ſo love your perſon, and upon ſo good experience and knowledge, adore all your other parts, which are more than ever one man had, that were not only all your people, but all the world beſides ſet together on one ſide, and you alone on the other, I ſhould, to obey and pleaſe you, diſpleaſe, nay deſpiſe all them, and this ſhall be ever my popularity. Give me leave here to uſe your own proverb, For this the devil con me thanks. The reaſons of my going to Newhall, are theſe, firſt, I find buſineſs, and the ſight of buſy folks, does me much harm, and though your extraordinary care, and watchful eye over me, would keep them from ſpeaking with me, yet in a court I muſt needs look many of them in the face; then Theobalds houſe is now very hot, and hath but few change of rooms, both inconvenient to a ſick body; then my Lord of Warwick tells me, that, by experience, he hath found Newhall air as good a one to ride away an ague as any in England, and that lately he loſt one by the benefit of that air, I mean near hand, which I think will be all one. By this time, I fear, I have troubled you; and were it not that I write to you, I am ſure I

ſhould have wearied myſelf. I have now only one requeſt to you, as you firſt placed me in your BABIE CHARLES's good opinion, if you think fit, for your ſervice, in my abſence, continue me in it, and ſo give me your bleſſing.

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble ſlave and dog,

STINIE.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

I DO not know what fault I have made of late, that you ſhould take ſo cruel a revenge of me, as to put me in the fear your laſt but one letter did. I am too far behind-hand to let the quarrel reſt ſo; though in your laſt you made a propoſition full of affection, if I may call it by ſo ſawcy a name; you are now in the place of love; therefore, for that reſpect, I will now forbear you; but when you are off of that ground, look to yourſelf. I hope to have the happineſs to-morrow to kiſs your hands; therefore I will not ſend you that letter you writ to the Pope, which I have got from Secretary Calvert; when he delivered it to me, he made this requeſt, that he hoped your Majeſty would as well truſt him in the letter you were now to write, as you had heretofore in the former. I did what I could to diſſemble it; but, when there was no means to do it, I thought beſt to ſeem to truſt him abſolutely, thereby the better to tie him to ſecrecy. If this be a lie, as I am ſure it is, then you may begin to think, that, with a little more ſtudy, I may cry Quittance; ſo I crave your bleſſing.

Your Majeſty's
humble ſlave and dog,
STINIE.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

THOUGH I writ laſt night, yet I think it not amiſs to add one word more, to expreſs myſelf more particularly: my Lord Maxwell is arrived, and hath aſſured me, having had it out of the Pope's own mouth, that the diſpenſation is granted free and unclogged. He further adds, that after he had, in a rough manner, ſpoke with the Nuntio at Paris, in ſo much that he told he would complain of him preſently to his Holineſs, he anſwered him calmly thus, and with ſome expreſſions of fear, that he ſhould do it; that if he would but have a little patience, he ſhould quickly ſee through the buſineſs, and have no cauſe to complain; all this I have told, *d'effiat*, but under the roſe. I likewiſe told him, you reproached to me, where is your glorious match with France, and your royal frank monſieurs. I told him alſo, I had orders to ſet a ſhort day for the aſſembling of the parliament, and that you had commanded me, if the Spaniſh agent came to viſit me, that I ſhould, upon pain of your diſpleaſure, not only uſe him civilly, but kindly. He anſwered me impatiently and confuſedly, what, cannot one make a trial of gaining better and more advantageous conditions, without an intention to break? Whereupon I told him, I did not think they

did intend to break; nay, that I did not think there [was] an occaſion; beſides, the ties of honour and honeſty would not give them leave, but I was ſorry and aſhamed, that ſo unſeaſonably, after all things were performed to their deſire, nay, more than they could have imagined; witneſs the aſſiſtance of ſhipping, the hearty profeſſions of my maſter, as well by letter as thoſe verbal compliments he ſent by Monſieur La Riviere, and now at the time when acknowledgements at the leaſt, if not requitals, ſhould have come, with greedy glutton-ous appetites, to ſeek to ſurfeit on the forbidden tree, can receive no cleanlier an interpretation than to have come from an unreaſonable, unjuſt, falſe, and unmannerly appetite; and thus you have ended *avec la bonne bouche;* but I thought in my mind ſh------- mouths. I pray you, Sir, do not kiſs that word, nor bewray, for want of bold and abſolute language, a good buſineſs. I ended with Monſieur thus, your maſter acknowledges he hath already the ſubſtance of what he deſires, though I know the contrary; the Pope is to receive ſatisfaction not from my maſter, but yours. Now, then, let every man act his own natural proper part. Spain muſt really be cozened; let the Pope do that, ſince he can as well pardon himſelf as all the world. The Pope ſeemingly muſt be cozened; let France do that, who hath the title of the moſt Chriſtian King, and ſo may the eaſilier obtain a pardon; my maſter will neither be cozened, nor cozen; wherefore the moſt Chriſtian King muſt conſcionably undertake to his Holineſs, for as much as may cozen Spain, France, and Rome, who

may not for their union be called the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghoſt*. Sir, I will weary your patience with one word more; if you pleaſe, treat as little as may be, and roundly let the ambaſſador know, you ſo much prize your honour, that neither in a circumſtance nor form will you make any alteration, and ſet your ambaſſadors a ſhort peremptory day for an anſwer; if it prove good, I ſhall be as ſoon ready to go from hence as it can be to come hither; if ill, then let your ambaſſadors as ſpeedily come away; for never admit of new journies to Rome, neither doth it need. I will end with Mall's complement to me: Lord Father, I love you well! Lord Father, I will die for you! So I crave your bleſſing, as

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble ſlave and dog,

STINIE.

* This expreſſion, which is as dull as it is profane, would certainly have been omitted, had the fidelity due by a tranſcriber to the public allowed it.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.

DEAR DAD AND GOSSIP,

I DID hope to have got out of town to-morrow, but by reaſon of new diſcoveries my brother hath made of a witchcraft, I am forced to crave leave to ſtay till Monday or Tueſday, otherwiſe, by leaving him in the midſt of his troubles, I ſhould give him too juſt cauſe to think I cared no more for him than to ſerve my turns of him.

I confeſs, there is yet too much to do concerning my preparations for France; and God forbid I ſhould, by my neglect, make that longer in doing which hath been already too long undone, the marriage of the Prince. The want of monies in your exchequer makes me now want the happineſs to wait of you; for, as yet, I have not received one penny; but of this I'll trouble you no more, it being now ready, as I am ever to receive your bleſſing, which now I crave, as

Your Majeſty's
moſt humble ſlave and dog,
STINIE.

Both KATE, MALL, and I, humbly thank the good man Purveyor, for his preſents of all kinds.

DUTCHESS OF BUCKINGHAM TO KING JAMES.

MAY IT PLEAS YOUR MAJESTIE,

I HAVE receved the two boxes of drid ploms and graps, and the box of violatt caks, and chickens; for all which I moſt humbly thank your Majeſtie.

I hope my Lord Anan * has tould your Majeſtie, that I did mean to wene Mall very ſhortly. I wood not by any mens a-don it, till I had furſt made your Majeſtie acquanted with it; and by reaſon my cuſen Bret's boy has binne ill of latt, for fere ſhee ſhould greeve and ſpyle her milk†, maks me very deſiorous to wene her; and I thinke ſhee is ould enufe, and I hope will endure her wening very well; for I thinke there was never child card leſs for the breſt than ſhee dos; ſo I do entend to make triall this night how ſhee will endure it. This day, praying for your Majeſtie's health and longe life, I humbly take my leve.

Your Majeſtie's
moſt humbell ſarvant,
K. BUCKINGHAM.

* The perſon intruſted with this important commiſſion, concerning the weaning of MALL, was Sir JOHN MURRAY of the Bed-Chamber, created Viſcount ANNAN by K. JAMES.

† An ingenious uſe to which the Dutcheſs put a humble couſin.

THE DUTCHESS DOWAGER OF LENOX TO KING JAMES.

MY SOVEREIGN LORD,

ACCORDING to your Majeſty's gracious pleaſure, ſignified unto me, I have ſent a young man to attend you, accompanied with a widow's prayers and tears, that he may wax old in your Majeſty's ſervice; and in his fidelity and affection may equal his anceſtors departed: ſo ſhall he find grace and favour in the eyes of my lord the King; which will revive the dying hopes, and raiſe the dejected ſpirits, of a comfortleſs mother.

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble ſervant,

KA. LENOX.*

* The daughter and heir of Gervaſe Lord Leightoun, the widow of Eſme third Duke of Lenox, and the mother of many heroes. The reader, after having peruſed ſo many letters of flatterers and politicians, will be relieved with the elegant ſimplicity of this billet.

COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND TO KING JAMES.

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

YOUR Majeſty's letter, concerning the declaration of your royal will and pleaſure againſt William Rig and his complices, came no ſoooner to our hands, whom your Majeſty firſt intruſted therewith, but there went a current bruit through this town of an extraordinary great fine to be impoſed upon the ſaid perſons; however, from whom that bruit proceeded, we know not; and we will clear ourſelves, that, to this hour, we have ever concealed that point anent [concerning] the fine, and neither acquainted the reſt of the council, nor no others therewith: and for this we will humbly crave your Majeſty's pardon, and beg the favour of your Majeſty, that your Majeſty would be graciouſly pleaſed to take in good part our humble opinion concerning the fine, wherein, as the Lord knows, we have no other thing before our eyes, but your Majeſty's honour and the general content of your ſubjects, who, at the firſt raiſing of the uncertain bruit of the fine, whereof the particular is yet unknown unto them, were ſo moved with the rareneſs of the matter, and with the apprehenſion of fear upon the preparative and conſequence thereof, as

we have not heard of a matter ſo hardly taken with, and ſo dangerouſly apprehended by all ranks of perſons; for the like of the fine was never heard of in this kingdom; and there was never a crime (how grievous ſoever) which was puniſhable by fining, that received ſuch a cenſure; nor can the means of the private perſons afford ſuch ſums; and the man himſelf, although in the general opinion of the people he be wealthy, is not known to have ſuch ſtock as the ſum impoſed; and if it be left in record, it will import the effect of a forfeiture, and a depriving him of his whole eſtate, which, in a matter of this kind, reſpect being had to the quality of the offence, and quantity of the fine, will not be warranted by example, and, in the opinion of many, will not ſubſiſt in courſe of juſtice: the conſideration whereof has moved us hitherto to conceal the fine, being perſuaded that the council would never allow thereof; and we were loath that any of your Majeſty's directions ſhould receive an interruption or hard interpretation. The reſt of your Majeſty's pleaſure concerning him and his aſſociates, by declaration made of their being ever incapable of any public function, is ſatisfied, and he ſhall keep ward in the Blackneſs*, and the reſt in their wards till your Majeſty, in the excellence of your wiſdom, comparing the puniſhment with the quality of the offence, ſhall receive contentment; whereof we will

* A caſtle twelves miles weſt of Edinburgh, near Borrowſtounneſs; it is now an uſeleſs heap of ruins, maintained by the public at a great annual expence.

moſt humbly beſeech your Majeſty to reſt ſatisfied, and to pardon our preſumption and boldneſs, wherein, as we have formerly ſaid, we have no other reſpect but your Majeſty's honour, and content of your ſubjects. And ſo praying the Almighty God to preſerve your Majeſty in health and happineſs, with a long and bleſſed reign, we reſt for ever,

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble and obedient

ſubjects and ſervants,

MAR.
MELROS.
GEORGE HAY.
—— OLIPHANT.

Holyroodhouſe, 1ſt July, 1624.

PRIVY COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND

TO

KING JAMES.

MOST SACRED SOVEREIGN,

WE received your Majeſty's letter of the 22d of June laſt, and, to our exceeding great grief, we perceive that your Majeſty has taken offence at our proceedings in that matter concerning William Rig*, and that ſentence was not pronounced againſt him conform to your Majeſty's direction, wherein we will humbly crave pardon to clear ourſelves, that no private reſpect nor conſideration towards the man could have induced us to overſee the leaſt point of duty in the execution of your royal commandments; but knowing that your Majeſty's principal aim in this, and other matters of the like kind, is grounded upon a moſt religious and princely reſolution, to have your Majeſty's laws concerning the order of the church to be reverently obeyed, and a peaceable and fruitful miniſtry to be eſtabliſhed in this burgh; ſo we at the diet appointed for the pronouncing of your royal will againſt the ſaid William, he compeared, ac-

* This RIG appears to have been a leading perſon among the Presbyterians: what his offence was, is not certainly known to the Publiſher of this Collection. But it appears, that his zeal had formerly brought upon him the diſpleaſure of King JAMES, whoſe letter to the Privy Council of Scotland is here ſubjoin-

companied with the whole miniſtry of this burgh, and not only moſt ſubmiſſively acknowledged his overſight in that Tueſday's morning before Eaſter, and cleared himſelf of ſome miſtakings in his depoſitions, and wherein he had forgot himſelf, by granting a point never ſpoken of by him in the meeting foreſaid; but with * that the miniſtry, after a heavy regret made by them of their hard ſtate and condition within the burgh, and how they had a purpoſe to have begged leave to have left their miniſtry. In end they declared, that, upon conference with the ſaid William, they had received great contentment and ſatisfaction, in the main points wherein he pretended he doubted, and were in good hope of his future conformity and obedience; and that the reſt of the neighbours of the town, who have the greateſt hand in this buſineſs, would, by his example, do the like; whereupon would follow the peace of their church, reſpect to their perſons, and a hearty and mutual harmony betwixt them and their flock, which was the only thing they ſought; and therefore they humbly interceded for favour unto the ſaid William, and that the declaration of your royal will againſt him might be deferred for ſome certain ſpace; then, being at length heard, and the expediency of their pro-

ed, that the calm and candid reader may compare his own times with thoſe of his fathers.

* Whereas divers of our burgh of Edinburgh, out of a peeviſh humour, and in contempt of good order, leave their

? So the MS.

poſition debated at the council-table, and the Archbiſhop of St. Andrews, who as your Majeſty knows, has the greateſt care in theſe church matters, and whoſe opinion is much reverenced, and followed therein, not only joined with the miniſtry in their propoſition and deſire, as the fitteſt courſe to procure obedience and peace in the church, but voted with us to the ſuperſeding of the declaration of your will and pleaſure. This being the ſimple truth of the carriage, and progreſs of this buſineſs, we will humbly beſeech your Majeſty to accept the ſame in good part, as proceeding from them, whoſe chief care and endeavours in the charge and place wherewith your Majeſty has honoured us, is to approve ourſelves worthy of our charge, and anſwerable to the truſt your Majeſty repoſeth in us. We have deprived the ſaid William from his office of Bailie, and have declared him and the reſt incapable of any public charge in church or town hereafter, and have directed them to their ward; and, in all other things, which may procure your Majeſty obedience and contentment, the peace of the kirk, and reſpect to the miniſters, there ſhall be nothing wanting in us, which to the duty of our place as counſellors, and in alledgiance as humble ſubjects and ſervitors appertains. And ſo,

" ordinary paſtors, and following deprived or ſilenced mini-
" ſters, receive of them the ſacrament, we have conceived a
" moſt juſt indignation againſt them, which we defer to ex-
" preſs by any exemplary puniſhment, hoping, that, at this
" approaching Eaſter, their conformity to good order, ſhall

with the continuance of our humble and earneſt prayers unto God for your Majeſty's long and happy reign, we reſt for ever,

Your Majeſty's

moſt humble and obedient

ſubjects and ſervitors,

GEORGE HAY.	OLIPHANT.
MAR.	R. COCKBURNE.
MORTON.	AR. NAPER.
LINLITHGOW.	J. SKENE.
MELROS.	A. GIBSONE.
LAUDERDAIL.	A. ELPHINSTONE.
CARNEGY.	J. HAMILTON.
J. ERSKINE.	KILSAYTH.

Holyroodhouſe, 1ſt July,
1624.

" teſtify their amendment. But, in reſpect that there be ſome " who continually aſſiſt the refractory miniſtry in all their " diſobedience, and ſpare not to countenance them in all their " public doings, yea, even to accompany them when they are " cited before our High Commiſſion, thereby encouraging

" them to ſtand out againſt the orders of the church, in con-
" tempt of our authority: and although we have ſo long had
" patience with them, as to expect, that, by lenity and admo-
" nition, they might have been reclaimed from their rebelli-
" ous humour, and reduced to an obedient and dutiful kind
" of behaviour; yet, ſeeing lenity prevaileth not with them,
" we have thought good, by theſe preſents, and will you to re-
" move the ſpecial of theſe evil weeds out of that field, and
" ſend William Rig, merchant, into Caithneſs, and—[other
" burgeſſes of Edinburgh baniſhed to different corners of
" Scotland] willing and commanding every one of them not to
" exceed the bounds to him limited, without our ſpecial war-
" rant, under all the higheſt pains and puniſhment. The like
" courſe we intend to take with others who ſhall be found
" culpable of the like offences; and not doubting of your care
" in the premiſes, we bid you farewel.

Given at our mannor of Theobalds the 30th April, 1623.

FINIS.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

ERRORS OF THE MANUSCRIPT.

Page 19. l. 5. for *an*, read *any*.
P. 28. l. 4. for *do*, r. *do you*.
P. 29, 32, 46, 52. for MALLOCH, r MALLET.
P. 108. Note, l. 1. for *the*, r. *of the*.
P. 110. Note, l. 9. for *Santa*, r. *Santità*.
P. 138. l. 13. for *D'effiat*, r. *Deffiat*.

p. 24. Edmund Peacham was instituted to the
Vicarage of Ridge in Hertfordshire
22 July 1581 at the presentation of the B
of London; & resign'd it in the latter
End of 1587. Newcourt Repertor. Vol. 1
1874.